

## Ford unions set strike deadline

Unless there is an improvement in the 4.5 per cent pay offer to Ford's 54,000 manual workers by next Friday, union negotiators are to recommend an all-out strike from November 24.

Mr Ronald Todd, leader of the union's negotiating team, said: "We will recommend that we go into a major dispute. We are not looking for a confrontation but we do want a right hander from the company."

## Thatcher rejects new spy inquiry

The Prime Minister refused to order a new inquiry into Soviet penetration of the security service. In a Commons written reply she urged MPs to concern themselves with the future rather than the past, but she faces anger today over the member of imputed spies who were offered immunity from prosecution.

## Gilmour calls for change of course

Sir Ian Gilmour, former Lord Privy Seal, who was dismissed from the Government in the recent reshuffle after disagreements with his Cabinet colleagues on monetary policy, intensified the campaign to force the Government to alter its economic strategy. He said in the Commons that a change of course was urgently needed.

## Postal charges rise delayed

The Post Office announced that it will delay until February 1 next year the increases in postal charges planned for January 4. The decision, it said, was a positive response to objections raised by the Post Office Users' National Council.

## Helicopter fleet withdrawn

Bristol Helicopters has decided never to use its 10 Wessex helicopters again commercially after the crash on August 2 of a Wessex in the North Sea in which 13 people died. The Royal Air Force's 20 Wessex, including those of the Queen's Flight, are still operating.

## Quality year for French wines

This year's French wine is generally good quality, but volume has dropped throughout the country, according to Bordeaux growers said 1981 would go down as a great year. Red wines will match the best years of the 1970s.

No-one is going to give you a job while you look like a politician.



## Staff cuts sought at 'The Times'

Mr Rupert Murdoch, chairman of Times Newspapers, asked union leaders to begin immediate negotiations on manning reductions and economies aimed at stemming estimated losses of £1.2m a year at Times Newspapers. The proposals are likely to involve cuts in several departments.

## Lord's day play

There will be Sunday play in a Test match at Lord's next summer for the first time, after a ballot among MCC members. The third day of the second Test against Pakistan will be the occasion.

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# Shop stewards overrule 'no strike' vote by oil men

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

The threat of a damaging tanker drivers' strike, which is due to start next Monday, was thrown into confusion last night when senior transport union shop stewards declared invalid votes of 2,000 workers at BP oil terminals.

About 100 BP senior stewards from the Transport and General Workers' Union took the highly unusual decision against a background of speculation that the workers had rejected the strike call.

At a new set of meetings, shop stewards will explain the union's position on the offer and give a strong recommendation for strike action.

Union officials said the stewards had decided the votes were invalid because the workers had not received all the facts on the dispute. Mr Jack Ashwell, the union's national secretary for commercial relations, said: "I defend the right of the stewards to proceed with a matter in any shape or form that they do, and there is nothing wrong with the decision our people have taken today."

"In all sincerity," he was unable to say how the men had voted in the terminals on the evening of 8 per cent pay offer because the stewards had taken the decision during the meeting that the votes should not be aggregated.

It appeared in some terminals, he said, that BP workers had voted for rejection without being aware that they were voting for a strike. They thought that rejection would involve further negotiations.

Further meetings will be held in the terminals tomorrow and Thursday and the stewards will report back with the voting figures to another meeting in London on Friday.

At the terminal meetings, it will be made clear to the workers that a vote for rejection will be taken as a vote in favour of a strike.

Stewards from Shell, Esso and Texaco are also due to meet this week to report on the results of their consultations, and Mr Ashwell, hoped the same problem would not arise at those meetings.

The company's 8 per cent pay offer would increase basic weekly pay from £105 to £113. Average earnings would rise to about £170.

The tanker drivers' strike was recommended by a special union delegate meeting last month and the vote was held in the terminals and depots on the strike call over the last few weeks. Last night neither the union or company management were able to give any indication of how voting had gone in Shell, Esso or Texaco.

Mr Ashwell said that it was not the first time that a vote had been declared invalid. He had declared a vote null and void some years ago when drivers had voted for immediate strike action after receiving a first offer.

Unofficial reports from shop stewards had earlier indicated that voting at BP depots had been 18-6 in favour of accepting the offer. Mr Ashwell pointed out that there were 63 depots and terminals in BP and one shop steward said "the 18-6 figure was wrong anyway".

He and other stewards refused to be drawn on what the voting figures had actually been and maintained that the stewards were not aware of the total vote.

Asked whether the union was trying to change the rules because it had not liked the original results Mr Ashwell said: "We don't change the rules. We always insist that the members make the decision but we like the members to have all the facts not just some of them. There has been a lot of pressure recently from the media and the management on the members."

The only comment from BP last night was: "We note what has taken place."

The confusion over the voting came only 24 hours after an interview was published in the Sunday Times with Mr Alex Kitson, acting general secretary of the TGWU, in which he said that he wanted the tanker drivers to strike.

He was reported as saying that there was no winning argument from the fact that a tanker drivers' strike would be extremely political. He was also quoted as saying: "If it goes on long enough, Mrs Thatcher will be either forced economically to make a return or she may go back to the country. And I can bring her down if she wants to do what Heath did in 1974."

The tanker drivers have considerable industrial muscle and power over north-western regions of the country, and a strike during the summer would be a serious blow to the economy.

The union's delegate meeting originally called for a strike because the four main companies were not prepared to match an 11 per cent deal agreed for Mobil drivers last May.

Shell senior shop stewards are the next to meet tomorrow and the vote will be held in the terminals and depots on the strike call over the last few weeks. Last night neither the union or company management were able to give any indication of how voting had gone in Shell, Esso or Texaco.

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## First Lady welcomes her hero

"You are my Y and H" America's First Lady told her husband's hero, Mr James Brady, when she welcomed him back to the White House for the first time since he was shot in the head during the assassination attempt on her husband, President Reagan, watching his wife, Nancy, hugging his press secretary, remarked: "The husband is always the last to know."

It was an emotional but light-hearted reunion for Mr Brady on the opening of the refurbished press room (Nicholas Hirst writes from Washington). The packed room, jammed with White House press staff and reporters, broke into applause as he entered the room in his wheelchair. Never lost for a joke and reflecting the ambivalent relationship between spokesman and reporter, he set just the right tone with his quip: "I miss most of you."

The evening laughter gave President Reagan his cue for a moment of seriousness: "Jim, we are all waiting for the day when you are back for good" then it was into the badinage of such occasions. "You know, as he entered the room in his wheelchair. Never lost for a joke and reflecting the ambivalent relationship between spokesman and reporter, he set just the right tone with his quip: "I miss most of you."

## Banks trim cost of loans, overdrafts

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

High street banks cut the cost of overdrafts and loans yesterday with the second reduction in interest rates in a month. National Westminster led the way with a 1 point cut in its base lending rate to 15 per cent, to take effect immediately, and the three other big clearing banks, Barclays, Lloyds and Midland followed suit.

The latest cut means that personal borrowers will be paying between 18 to 20 per cent on their overdrafts while the cost for top-quality industrial customers will be 16 per cent.

However, the cut is unlikely to affect home loans from build-lenders which mortgage rates unchanged.

Yesterday's move was a response to recent falls in money market rates and the trend in the United States. Mr Jeffrey Benson, group chief executive of National Westminster, said: "Following the slight easing of interest rates here and abroad and the strengthening of the exchange rate, we have acted as early as

we possibly can to ease the interest burden on our commercial customers."

Although base rates have now fallen by 3 per cent since the middle of October to 15 per cent, this is still well above the 12 per cent ruling in the middle of September before the Bank of England intervened to protect the pound and base rates rose 4 per cent in a matter of weeks.

The Building Societies Association yesterday welcomed the cut and said it would be watching the position carefully.

On the foreign exchange markets yesterday the cut and rather disappointing wholesale price figures took the edge off the pound's early gains. After falling 2 cents up it closed in London 1½ cents higher at \$1.825. The dollar was generally weak after easier short-term interest rates. Leading American banks, including Chase Manhattan and Citibank, cut their prime rates by 1 per cent to 17 per cent.

## Defects may doom 1,000 council flats

From Our Correspondent Manchester

A Manchester housing estate built in the late 1960s at a cost of £5m is facing demolition. A report by the Manchester City Council housing committee outlined basic design faults in the deck access flats and maisonettes, though these defects are not thought to be dangerous, said are being monitored.

More than a thousand families live on the Fore Beechley council estate off Grey Mare Lane, which was built by Biscot Concrete (Northern) under a package deal contract.

If the decision to demolish goes ahead it will involve either a planned long-term demolition, or the whole estate would be razed and the site sold.

The estate has been the subject of hundreds of complaints from residents angry because of water seepage in the roof, water penetration to the lower decks, and condensation, as well as cracked supports to fire escape and access balconies, were also discovered.

After a meeting of the housing committee yesterday, the chairman, Mr John Smith, said: "There is a serious situation. We have decided to demolish and I don't know if we have available property to put up the families. It would cost £100,000 to get the property into some kind of reasonable condition, but we guarantee we will be successful."

He said it would cost the council £5m to demolish the flats, but at the moment people were refusing to move into them because of their condition, and so they were lying empty.

## Louvre says US museum smuggled Poussin

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

The Musée du Louvre in Paris has claimed that a Poussin painting recently purchased by the Cleveland Museum of Art in America was smuggled out of France. The painting, *Madame de Pompadour*, dated from 1648 and two versions are known.

One was acquired in 1949 by the National Gallery, Washington and it has hitherto been considered the original by most scholars. The other belonged until last year to Mlle Thérèse Berrin-Mourou in France.

Cleveland, having purchased this second painting, now claims that it has the original, implying that the Washington picture is a fake, or at best an old copy. Poussin seldom, if ever, painted two versions of the same composition.

The acquisition of fraudulent art is made in a letter to the editor, published in the November issue of the *Burlington Magazine*. It is signed by Michael Leclerc, the Louvre's head curator, and by Pierre Rosenberg, another curator.

Continued on back page, col 3.

## Retrial after jury-rigging alarm

By Frances Gibb and Peter Evans

Concern at an increase in interference with jurors to seek a "not guilty" verdict was expressed by a leading barrister yesterday after a retrial was ordered in a tax fraud trial at Croydon, south London.

Judge Jean Graham Hall discharged the jury in the fifth week of the trial because two jurors had been approached, she said, and offered money.

Mr Richard Du Cann, QC, former chairman of the Bar, said yesterday: "Twenty years ago this was absolutely unheard of. But certainly there have been a number of disreputable cases within the last five or three years."

At the Croydon tax fraud trial, the judge was about to start her summing up when some information was passed to her. The court then assembled and she said to the jury: "One of your number on his way home on Friday was spoken to by two men and he told her that he should swing it in favour of certain of the defendants. He was then handed £500."

"That juror had the courage to go straight to the police and I have a written statement from him. This morning, another juror has quite separately sent a note, which came straight to me. He was approached on his way home on Friday as well. I have to force money on to him. This juror, like the other, said his duty, although he knew this put himself and his family at risk."

Although you have listened very patiently and for so long it would not be in the interests of justice to continue any further.

The judge then discharged the jury and said: "I thank the two jurors for their courage and honesty in very difficult circumstances."

It is estimated that the trial has so far cost £60,000. The judge refused bail for three of the five defendants, William Lewis, 40, and his wife, Mrs Patricia Lewis, 38, and Anthony Ronald Lewis, 38, of 100, Woodhouse, all London, Edward Arthur Johnson, 40, of 100, Dene Road, of Dene Road, Peckham, south London, were allowed bail.

# Victory for Benn and Heffer

By Julian Hayland and George Clark

The workings of the Labour Party's internal democracy brought yesterday double victories for Mr Michael Foot and Mr Eric Heffer.

Mr Foot won the primary election, organised by the Fabian Group of Labour MPs, to choose candidates for the Shadow Cabinet.

But in the left's internal struggle within the Fabian Group, Mr Benn and Mr Heffer held their own by their reckoning, they filled 11 of the 15 places with their own people.

Mr Benn retained the chairmanship of the home policy reforming committee, by 22 votes to 8, and Mr Heffer was elected chairman of the organisation committee by 13 votes to 7.

In each case this defeated challenger was Mr Golding, MP for Newcastle-under-Lyme, the voting for the home policy committee had the support of Mr Denis Healey, the deputy leader.

Mr Golding was a former chairman of the Fabian Group, but his defeat was increased by the absence of three trade union members, Mr Alan Hadden, Mr Sydney Hadden, and Mr Sam McCusker.

The defeat dismayed those in the party who had hoped that the more even balance achieved when the new national executive was elected at this annual conference, this week, would be reflected in the committee. Their fears were at once confirmed, when the organisation committee decided, at the instance of Mr Benn, to elect an appeal for the national executive.

The selection of Mr David Neill, another Fabian supporter, as prospective candidate for Coventry, South-East, was endorsed without dissent.

Yesterday, another Labour MP, Mr Emyr Iwan, who represents Carmarthen, said he would not seek re-election by his local party. Mr Davies, who is regarded as his reasons later this week to his management committee.

Under the proposals, all young people aged between 16 and 18, regardless of their previous academic record, would be provided with a broad general education which would include literacy and numeracy, broad vocational preparation, political and economic literacy, and an appreciation of an involvement in the cultural, physical and recreational aspects of life.

A levels would be abolished and replaced in the short term by examinations based on a much broader academic curriculum. Labour's objective in the long term, however, would be to replace all examinations with a modern system of assessment, with national standards.

Crosby campaign, page 4

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Crosby campaign, page 4

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## Post Office puts back increase in mail charges

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The Post Office announced yesterday that it would delay until February 1 next year increases in postal charges which it had proposed to introduce on January 4. The delay will save customers about £12m.

The Post Office described its decision as a positive response to objections to the proposed increases by the Post Office Users' National Council.

In a report to the Government and the Post Office published yesterday, POUNC argued that the increases should be postponed until April 1982, or that the cost of second class mail should be pegged, to save customers £30m.

This is the first time the council has won a deferment of proposed price increases. Its representatives filed on this occasion based on an acknowledged improvement in the Post Office's trading results. Last year POUNC predicted that the Post Office might lose some £60m unless

it introduced further price increases in the course of the year. In fact the Post Office is finishing the year with a small profit without putting up the charges a second time.

POUNC's report said that improvements in the operations showed that further savings could be achieved. The Post Office expects to recover the £12m revenue it is foregoing by continuing the productivity agreements, economy measures and vigorous marketing which succeeded in improving this year's results.

A government statement last night welcomed the postponement of the increases as "a helpful contribution to the fight against inflation".

When postal charges do rise on February 1 the cost of a first-class letter will go up by 14p to 15p, and that of a second-class letter by 1p to 12p. The additional revenue in the year is now expected to be £138m. The increases average 9.4 per cent, which is below the rate of inflation.

## Connery in action over film income

Sean Connery, the actor, went to the High Court in London yesterday to fight a legal battle over proceeds from some of the films which made him a screen star.

He is being sued by Kenneth Richards, his former film accountant, who claims that the former Bond star owes him percentages from profitable films including *Goldfinger*, *Thunderball*, *Diamonds are Forever*, and *Murder on the Orient Express*.

Mr Connery, whose home is in Malaga, Spain, was in court to hear Mr Roger Buckley, QC, explain the claim on behalf of the accountant and Films and Properties Establishment, his company based in Liechtenstein.

Mr Buckley said that in 1974 Mr Connery entered a verbal and later a written contract with Mr Richards and his company so that in effect they became his employers, hiring him out to film companies. They also looked after his business affairs. Mr Connery ended the contract in December, 1977.

Mr Richards, of Lansanne, Switzerland, and his company claimed that under the terms of the contract they were entitled to 2 per cent of any of the proceeds from a total of 13 films that Mr Connery, now aged 51, starred in.

The case was adjourned until today.

## £500 fine on garage over servicing

Mr Kieron Durcan heard a loud bang as he drove away from a garage after paying £114.73 for a 10,000-mile service on his Volkswagen van.

He was suspicious about the work done and called a senior trading standards officer who discovered that there was no oil on the dipstick although Mr Durcan had paid for 11 litres; the new filter he bought had not been fitted; his brakes were worn out, although he had paid for new linings; the brake fluid chamber was empty despite a charge for fluid; and he had been charged for lubricating a sliding door hinge, but it still creaked.

Magistrates at Staines, Surrey fined Contin Motors (£500) with £124 costs for falsely claiming to have serviced the van at its branch in London Road, Ashford, Kent. The company admitted the five charges.

Contin's sales director told the magistrates: "It looks as if we are ripping off the public, but it was due to our mechanic who did the service. When I asked him if he had changed the oil and filter, he said 'yes'. He admitted, though, that he had not changed the wheel nut and therefore did not inspect the brake cylinders."

Mr Durcan was offered an unqualified apology.

## Mother was happy, surgeon's son says

Mr John Vickers, aged 19, son of the Newcastle upon Tyne surgeon, accused of murdering his wife, told a court yesterday that he would have been very surprised if anyone had told him there had been a possibility of his parents being divorced during the past three or four years.

His mother came to London near Christmas, 1978, for his school carol service, and they travelled home by train together. "She seemed to be very happy," he said.

He said she also seemed very well when she visited an optician in January, 1979. The following month he telephoned home one Sunday night and his father told him that his mother was in hospital.

He said she would probably be in for four to eight weeks. "I think he said something about it being a problem with the blood."

He said his father thought she might have been better looked after in the Westminster Hospital in London.

After his mother was discharged he saw her during the Easter holidays, and they visited Norwich. "I think she seemed very well," he said.

In July, 1979, after his mother died, he was at home in Gosforth while his father was on holiday in Copenhagen. "There were quite a lot of phone calls. Sometimes I just picked up the phone and there was nothing," he said.

Paul Vickers, of Moor Crescent, Gosforth, Newcastle, and Pamela Collins, of Margaret Road, New Barnet, Hertfordshire, are accused of poisoning Mrs Margaret Vickers with an anti-cancer drug because she stood in the way of their ambitions. Both deny the murder charge.

The surgeon concluded his evidence and cross-examination yesterday, his sixth day in the witness box at Teesside Crown Court.

Mr Vickers was asked whether he had considered Miss Collison an adornment to his political or medical interests. He said: "I had got where I was with Margaret's assistance and by my own work. I am not sure an adornment is necessary any way to progress in medical politics. Mr Heath got far enough without a wife or support."

In November, 1977, he had discussed Miss Collison's health with her. "She told such an extraordinary story which seemed really at the very least to have been presenting a considerable risk to her health."

"She said she had been on the pill for 20 years and had had an enormous number of men 'friends'. The risk of venereal disease and problems such as cancer of the cervix multiplied with the number of sexual liaisons."

The hearing continues today.

## TV set fire kills three widows

From Our Correspondent Manchester

Three elderly widows died in a fire at an old peoples' nursing home in Blackburn yesterday. Two other residents were injured, but 30 others were led to safety from the Northwood Nursing Home, suffering from the effects of smoke.

The fire started at about 5.30 am in a third floor room, where the three victims slept, and was caused by an electrical fault in a television set which had been left plugged in.

The emergency call to the fire brigade was delayed because the telephone in the home was out of order. Father Martin Peyton, a priest, drove the one and a quarter miles to the fire station after trying to rescue the trapped people.

Firemen recovered the bodies of Mrs Ada Barnes, aged 86, Mrs Margaret Foot, aged 93, and Mrs Charlotte Boerstal, aged 76.

The two injured women were rescued by firemen from the third floor. Mrs Abigail Brown, aged 80, was said to be in a serious condition, at Blackburn Royal Infirmary and Mrs May Jones, aged 83, was released after treatment.

Two nursing staff were on duty overnight at the terraced suburban house. When the fire broke out, they ordered the other residents to lie on their faces in the hallway so that they would breathe the clearer air near the floor.

Station officer Ernest Calvert, one of the first firemen on the scene, said: "Flames



The Northwood nursing home after the fire yesterday.

were already coming out of the top window when we got there. The night staff had tried to tackle the blaze with a fire extinguisher before the firemen arrived.

The nursing home is equipped with a fire alarm system and fire detectors, one of which gave the alert. Fire chiefs doubted that anything could have been done to help the three women if the telephone had been working and there had been no delay in calling the fire brigade.

A fire brigade spokesman said: "The flames would have had to burn through the bedroom door in order to trigger the alarm in the hall, by which time the occupants would have succumbed to the effects of smoke and heat. If a lesson is to be learnt from this tragic incident it is essential to ensure all electrical appliances are unplugged before retiring to bed."

Mrs. Ada Barnes: One of the three who died. Father Martin Peyton: Tried to save trapped people.

## Poaching, part 2: Salmon Threat to stocks as big boys join amateurs

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

One evening this spring two poachers gaily paddled a rubber dinghy along the Wye near Monmouth. With a third man on the bank they strung out a fine net in the water. There was nothing to disturb them but the murmur of the river and the usual night sounds of the countryside.

But what could have been a profitable night's salmon poaching suddenly went wrong when figures began to clamber out of the water and two police frogmen made highly unusual arrests.

The frogmen were part of Operation Moonbeam, a 30-man police exercise against poachers. The nets had caught a mere three salmon but that cost the two men £300 in fines and the loss of all their equipment.

Yet for every such salmon poacher successfully prosecuted many others are continuing profitably.

Dr Roger Merry, fishery officer for the South-West Water Authority, said: "Poachers are taking a substantial proportion of salmon and taking them on the way to spawning grounds, which is a threat to stocks. He and other fishery officers believe poaching may be threatening the species."

In the first place, stocks have to survive the catches of legitimate fishermen and anglers. Poaching cuts back what remains. I many parts of Britain poachers take as many fish as they can, not only salmon but sea trout as well.

With prices at £2 a pound, salmon are a great temptation. Water authorities link the increase in poaching over the past few years to unemployment.

In some areas competition from opportunist amateurs has forced large-scale poachers to move North and South, taking fish from as far afield as Scotland and Devon.

More than a hundred sea trout have been found in nets on an estuary in the South-west, and 20 salmon, worth up to £400, in nets further

upstream. This August bailiffs discovered 26 salmon in the boot of a car near a Scottish river.

Poachers' methods make such catches possible. Close to shore or in river estuaries they use fine nets to trap and hold the fish by their gills. Farther upstream just about anything is used.

The traditional method is with a torch and a gaff at night. The fish are picked out by the light in pools or close to weirs and then hooked. A large treble hook may also be used, which is drawn through water, snagging the fish.

Crossbows and even rifles have been used. Equipped with a spear gun, poachers have also been discovered swimming through the pools after the shoals.

Home-made bombs have been exploded in the water to stun fish and then net them. A poison, based on the cyanide mixture used against rabbits, has been used on Scottish rivers with spectacular results. Mr Neil Grassie, chairman of the Association of Scottish District Salmon Fishery Boards, remembers when it was first used after the last war, poachers could get between eight hundred and a thousand fish.

In the fight to protect salmon, control is under the water authorities, who have introduced modern methods of crime prevention and detection.

Water bailiffs in the Southern Water Authority include night sights in their arsenal as well as two-way radios. Bailiffs have guard dogs and speedboats for ambushes. In the South-west, enforcement of fishing laws, in coordination with local police, is costing more than £200,000 a year.

The Welsh Water Authority has one of the largest problems, with 70 full-time bailiffs to patrol 5,000 miles of river. Enforcement costs more than £450,000 a year.

Concluded.

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## Wide support for Down's doctor

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Heavy public support for the stance of the jury in the case of Dr Leonard Arthur, the paediatrician who was cleared last week of attempting to murder a handicapped new born baby, was disclosed yesterday in a Mori poll of the public commissioned for BBC television's *Panorama* programme.

Eighty-six per cent of those polled said that if a doctor, with the parents' consent, saw to it that a severely handicapped new born baby died, he should not be found guilty of murder.

But a separate survey among consultant paediatricians indicated that only 10 per cent would take the course of action that Dr Arthur took, that is, to withhold normal medical treatment from a Down's syndrome baby, who was apparently healthy but who has been rejected by his parents.

In the Arthur case, evidence was heard that the baby was found in a post-mortem examination to have a damaged heart and lungs, but no evidence was given that those defects were apparent to medical staff when the child was alive.

Results of the poll were presented last night on the *Panorama* programme, the controversial nature of which caused some dispute at the BBC during the day. Full details of both polls were given exclusively to *The Times*.

In cases where the parents had rejected it, 90 per cent said they would give normal medical treatment to a healthy Down's baby, but only 29 per cent would give normal treatment to a spina bifida baby (not needing active medical treatment), and only 36 per cent said they would recommend surgery for a Down's baby needing an intestinal operation to live.

Half said they would feed and care for a spina bifida baby but not give it medical treatment if it contracted a possibly fatal illness and 17 per cent said they would give it appetite-suppressing drugs. Eight per cent said they would feed and care for a healthy Down's baby but not give medical treatment if it contracted an illness.

Fifty-six per cent of the doctors said they would not recommend surgery for a Down's baby with an intestinal obstruction. That sort of situation arose in August in the case of Alexandra, whose parents wanted her to be allowed to die, but whose life was saved when Hammer-smith Borough Council, London, took the matter to court.

In cases where the parents had accepted the baby, 96 per cent of doctors said they would give normal treatment to a healthy Down's baby, 52 per cent would give normal treatment to a spina bifida baby and 64 per cent said they would recommend an operation for a Down's baby with an intestinal obstruction. The doctors' poll did not receive the official approval of the British Paediatric Association, but the association did express interest in the results. The Mori poll of almost

2,000 adults carried out across Britain in mid-September showed that most would agree to a life-saving operation if they gave birth to a severely handicapped child who needed one (Table 1, above).

Nearly half of those polled (46 per cent) thought everything possible should be done to help the baby to live and most (60 per cent) thought that doctors and parents together should decide whether a severely handicapped baby should live or die.

Mr Robert Worcester, managing director of Mori, said: "There was little difference in the attitudes of men and women, of different ages, as to consent to an operation to save such a child's life, although Roman Catholics are more likely to agree (72 per cent) than are non-Roman Catholics (54 per cent) and working class respondents polled were more likely than the middle class."

He added: "There is little support among the respondents in the survey for either the doctors alone (4 per cent) or the law courts (2 per cent) to have the say in the decision of whether a severely handicapped baby lives or dies. By a margin of 12 to 1 the public believe that a doctor who sees to it that a severely handicapped baby dies, with the agreement of the parents, should not be found guilty of murder (Table 2 above)."

The survey was conducted by Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) on behalf of BBC's *Panorama* among a representative quota sample of 1,953 adults, over 18 years old, in 161 constituencies throughout Great Britain from September 14 to 18, this year.



## Labour man nails left-wing policy to Crosby campaign

From Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent, Liverpool

The Labour candidate for the Crosby by-election yesterday broke ranks with his own party leadership.

In a rare and blunt display of by-election independence, Mr John Backhouse declared his own manifesto commitment to a series of left-wing policies. He said that he was unequivocally in favour of a quick withdrawal from the EEC, complete unilateral disarmament, and renationalization with minimum compensation.

Mr Backhouse, a mathematics teacher of 28 at a local comprehensive, said of the EEC: "We want to withdraw from the Common Market as soon as possible, but we anticipate that we could not do it in less than 12 months".

Asked about disarmament, he said: "We want to get nuclear weapons off British soil".

On nationalization, he commented: "I am in favour of public ownership of all that needs to be done in order to gain control for the people of the economy: banks, various financial institutions, major manufacturing industry, anything which is essential to that programme".

He suggested that there was a difficulty in renationalizing assets hived off by the present government, without compensation, because some pension funds money was involved. But Mr Backhouse added: "My own view is that we should be committed to a policy of renationalization without compensation. If anybody suffers as a result of that, let them make their case, but their case is to be on the basis of need." The Conservatives have already attempted to embarrass Mrs Shirley Williams, the Social Demo-

cratic-Liberal Alliance candidate, by pinpointing private education as a by-election issue in a constituency which contains a number of top-rate private schools.

But Mr Backhouse, again issued his own forthright view: that they should be forced out of existence. He said that he wanted all support withdrawn. "It is not the same as abolition, in the sense that there is no wish to make the sending of a child to a private school a criminal act."

The Labour Party, however, was proposing to make it illegal for private schools to charge fees. "If you don't allow them to charge fees, it is not quite the same as saying it is illegal to send your child to such a school."

Mr Backhouse's statements highlights the undoubted difficulty that exists between the Crosby Labour Party and the Labour Party leadership in London.

It is most unlikely, for example, that either Mr Denis Healey or Mr Roy Hattersley, could go to Crosby and campaign in support of their candidate's policies. Indeed, Mr Michael Foot himself has signally failed to come out with such unequivocal support for such unilateral disarmament or wholesale nationalization.

Many Labour MPs on both right and left, will look to the Crosby result on November 26 as a rare test of the public popularity of left-wing policies which have passed through party conference in recent years.

In the general election of February, 1974, the combined Liberal and Labour vote in Crosby amounted to 48.4 per cent of the votes cast, and if

Mr Backhouse did manage to frighten off the traditional Labour vote, then Mrs Williams could well be in with a chance of victory.

Meanwhile, Mr John Butcher, the Conservative candidate, continued in a low key at the start of his campaign yesterday. He said that during a quick taste of constituency opinion, law and order, the economy, and unemployment had emerged as the voters' main concerns.

Mr Butcher, an accountant, refused to allow himself to be labelled a monetarist, but he thought the Government had successfully balanced the need for a firm monetarist policy with the country's political needs.

He added that he was against any big programme of investment to boost the economy.

Later, Mrs Williams launched her daily press conference by pointing out that unemployment in Crosby had increased substantially since the Conservatives came to power.

Unemployment among 18 and 19-year-olds had increased by 70 per cent, from 247 to 421 between October, 1979, and last month, while over the same period adult unemployment had increased from 2,445 to 4,410.

In a statement issued yesterday afternoon, Mrs Williams declared her opposition to the present abortion law, saying that she supported the reduction in the period of pregnancy after which abortion would be restricted.

But the Conservatives, who see Mrs Williams as the main threat to their 19,272 majority, returned last night to private education as the campaign issue.



## The united nations of York

Children from 15 different countries are learning to live in perfect harmony at a village primary school in North Yorkshire.

The cosmopolitan community has been created by York University near by, many of whose staff and students send their children to Heslington primary school (Our York Correspondent writes). Mr Peter Kendall, the headmaster, has 30 children of 15 different nationalities working

alongside 200 local youngsters. He believes it offers the best kind of education there is.

"British children benefit from mixing with others of their age from all over the world," he says. "All their beliefs, customs and habits are brought out. Some of the children are away from school when their families have religious festivals, and they all learn about each other's way of life, and come to

terms very easily with their differences."

"The whole point is that we are big, happy family, and I stress this in our assemblies."

One of the parents, Mr Nizar Kissab, a Syrian, commented: "The way these children from all over the world cooperate proves that war and racism are not natural. If only, we could all respect each other like they do."

## White-collar gas workers strike

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

More than 1,100 white collar staff in key control areas of British Gas went on strike yesterday for the first time in a dispute over allowances which their union claimed could affect gas supplies.

The National and Local Government Officers Association (NALGO) which represents the 1,500 shift workers who supervise the control and monitoring of gas flows, said that more than three quarters of the staff were on strike.

The strike was not fully supported in the south-west and southern areas. Mr David Strickland, NALGO's national gas officer, said last night: "The support has met

all our anticipations. It will undoubtedly be causing problems for the British Gas Corporation in terms of maintenance of supplies."

"We understand that there is a large number of industrial users who have been put on stand-by prior to disconnection and we expect to see the problems of the corporation worsening during the next few days."

British Gas said that there had not been any effect on supplies because management were manning computer and control centres, although the situation could change from day to day.

NALGO believes supplies could be affected when it becomes necessary to switch gas from one region to another.

The union is not providing emergency standby cover because its suggestion that one person remain at work in each centre was rejected by the management as insufficient.

The staff fall into two main groups: one monitors and controls supplies at distribution centres and the other operates computers for payments of bills and wages and salaries to British Gas employees. Most of those on strike, who work shifts to provide 24-hour cover, receive basic pay of between £6,354 and £8,121 a year.

## Magazine labelled journalist

Mr John Coulter, a journalist and public relations consultant, has been paid substantial damages over false allegations in *Private Eye*, the satirical magazine, that he was guilty of discreditable and infamous conduct when director of information for the British Steel Corporation, the High Court in London was told yesterday.

Mr David Eady, representing Mr Coulter, told Mr Justice Balcanquhall that Richard Ingrams and Paul Foot, the editor and publishers of *Private Eye*, had also agreed to pay Mr Coulter's costs of bringing a libel action against them.

Mr Eady said that Mr Coulter, formerly assistant editor of *The Economist*, industrial editor of *The Sunday Times* and an industrial reporter on the *Daily Express*, had been pilloried in *Private Eye* between 1978 and 1980.

His family had also been caused considerable distress through malicious telephone calls inspired by the publication in the magazine of his private telephone number.

## The meal that killed a model

From Our Correspondent

Liverpool A young fashion model who suffered from a chronic slimming disease died after a massive late-night meal after a three-day fast, an inquest was told yesterday.

Surgeons carrying out an emergency operation on Pauline Seaward, aged 24, removed three litres of partially digested food from her stomach.

An inquest in Liverpool was told that Miss Seaward, of Rutland House, Sefton Park, had a history of being underweight. When aged 17 she weighed 4 stone.

Mrs Maureen Seaward said her daughter had been advised to gain weight for her job. However, if she was to be photographed, she would fast "to keep her tummy flat": she ate two big meals a week and drank only coffee in between. Her last meal, eaten before she went to bed on August 22, was "the one to beat them all".

It included two raw cauliflowers, two blub puddings, one and a half pounds of raw liver, two pounds of kidneys, a piece of cheese, three pounds of raw carrots, two pounds of peas, a pound of mushrooms, 10 peaches, four bananas, two apples, four pears, two pounds of plums, two pounds of grapes and some home-made bread.

Mr Seaward said she and her husband had tried to persuade their daughter to alter her eating habits. "What she ate was enough for four people."

Dr Gordon Stamp, a senior pathology lecturer at Liverpool University, said Miss Seaward died from gastroenteritis caused by intestinal damage due to massive ingestion of food. At the Royal Liverpool Teaching Hospital an emergency operation was carried out because of breathing difficulties, but nothing could be done to save her.

Recording a verdict of accidental death, the Coroner, Mr Roy Bazer, said Miss Seaward was suffering from a recently diagnosed condition, bulimia nervosa, a chronic form of the slimming disease, anorexia nervosa, possibly due to a psychiatric disorder.

## CHILD SLEEPS DURING RAID

David Holt, aged two, slept for six hours while his parents, Mr and Mrs Timothy Holt, were held in their home in Freckleton, near Preston, by masked raiders who took keys for a Wigan supermarket but failed to steal anything.

Mr Holt, manager of the store, was hit on the head with a hammer. The men, who left the house at 5 am yesterday, had strong Liverpool accents.

## A diet of sauce and nostalgia from ITV

By Kenneth Gosling

Independent television's new eight-year franchise period begins in January with 17 new series, ranging from a new late-night magazine programme called *Over the Top*, described yesterday as saucy and sexy, to the first part of a four-year documentary project by Granada about the British Empire.

For the first time, one of the new programme companies, TV South, which takes over from Southern, is in the winter schedules with a programme of test-tube babies and a children's series called *The Haunting of Cassie Palmer*.

The schedules are strongest on light entertainment and in drama.

Two of the drama series carry a strong whiff of nostalgia. One of them, *We'll Meet Again*, which is set in wartime England and stars Susannah York, was called at yesterday's programme controllers' press conference "the best story idea since *Upstairs, Downstairs*".

The other, *Airline*, created by Wilfred Greatorex, is set in the period just after the war and describes the adventures in the air haulage business of a former flight-sergeant.

A kind of *Love is* Stan Barstow's adaptation in 10 one-hour episodes of his novel of that name and the two later books in the trilogy. The popular series, *Minder*, with George Cole and Dennis Waterman, returns for a further 13-week run and there is to be a second series for the romantic comedy, *A Fine Romance*, the first series of which is being shown at present.

In documentaries, Alan Whicker celebrates 25 years in television with a three-part retrospective, *Ten Fall of Singapore* is Granada's opening for its four-year project; and Antony Thomas, who made *Death of a Princess*, has spent a year making a documentary called *The Most Dangerous Man in the World*, about a convicted gun-runner and former CIA agent.

Comedy series that make their debut during the new season include *Don't Rock the Boat*, with Nigel Davenport and Sheila White; *Let There Be Love*, with Paul Eddington and Nanette Newman; and *OTT (Over the Top)*, a live, weekly late-night entertainment, with Alexei Sayle and Lenny Henry, said to be the "adults only" version of the anarchic Saturday morning children's programme, *Tiswas*.

Victoria Wood teams up again with Julie Walters, the actress, in a new weekly series of revues, *Victoria Wood's first play, Talent*, in which she appeared with Julie Walters, received considerable critical acclaim.

Emann Andrews is to compare a new satellite-linked quiz programme, with contestants in London, Miami and Sydney, in which the big prize is a vintage Rolls-Royce.

The project has been set up by Mr George Walker, brother of Billy Walker, the former boxer, through his Brent Walker film and leisure company.

## The fast life of a snail

From Our Correspondent, Nottingham

There is a happy ending to the tale of the little seashore snail which spent three years and three months on a dressing table, without moving or eating.

It is to be released into its natural habitat on the sands of Skegness now that zoological experts have finished studying it.

Staff at Dr Christopher Neill's laboratory, at Trent Polytechnic Nottingham have called it "supernail" because of its long fast. The British Museum says that the previous longest time for a snail to go without nourishment was about a year.

A spokesman for the laboratory said yesterday: It is eating well on cabbage and Brussel sprouts.

The snail was a seaside souvenir ornament on the dressing table of Mr Joseph Bell, aged 74, a retired miner, at Langley Mill, Nottinghamshire, until it suddenly came to life.

Dr Neill believes that the varnish on the shell prevented water from escaping, and kept the snail in permanent hibernation. When the varnish was accidentally cracked, the water seeped out and it woke up and moved.

Why choose Skegness? Well as the publicity posters say "it is so bracing".

## Whitehall brief

## The flier landed with Merseyside

By Peter Hennessy and David Walker

After last summer's riots in Toxteth the Prime Minister received a most unusual minute. Its title, "It took a riot...", etched itself in the memories of the hands of ministers and civil servants to whom it was circulated.

Written in a highly personal style by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, it expressed his reactions to Merseyside in the aftermath of the disorders. Something had to be done.

That minute's most tangible result to date is the appointment of a civil servant, Mr Eric Sorensen, former private secretary to Mr Heseltine, as Whitehall's Mr Merseyside. He is to direct a task force intent (at minimal cost to public funds) on bettering the economic prospects of Liverpool and environs.

At 39, Mr Sorensen is the youngest under-secretary in the Department of the Environment, a "flier". But it may take more than youth and energy to assuage the suspicions of the scouse politicians and cajole the region's reluctant capitalists. His are now the entrenched problems of a conurbation in decline for many years; the area has the reputation of being the entrepreneur's



Eric Sorensen: Thinks the unthinkable

graveyard, a bottomless pit for investment.

Mr Sorensen transfers to Liverpool from Whitehall's north-west frontier outpost above Manchester's Piccadilly where he has been the DOE's regional director since June, 1980. The Merseyside task force is to be his full-time job for at least the next two years.

Interviewed recently, Mr Sorensen declined, understandably, to talk about or even acknowledge the existence of Mr Heseltine's colourful minute. He said: "My new job is not something which directly emerges from the riots. Indeed the task force is not Toxteth-based, but covers the entire county of Merseyside." The operation, he emphasized, was part of a continuum of governments' efforts on Merseyside.

Is he to be a sort of surrogate Michael Heseltine? "We cannot ape the Secretary of State, his immense enthusiasm. But we must try to follow his example of willingness to meet all sorts of people... to try and get under the skin of Merseyside."

The task force comprises 24 individuals, 14 seconded from Merseyside firms, the rest drawn from a mix of government departments together with some officials from Liverpool City Council.

The task force's goals are notably vague. "Beware of building up expectations," Mr Sorensen said. "You cannot staff the task force with the traditional bureaucrats whose main joy is administering the set programme. It will need people who are reasonably outgoing; who can think the unthinkable."

## POLICEMAN JAILED FOR 9 MONTHS

A police inspector earning £11,000 a year, who borrowed a total of nearly £6,000 during his three years as treasurer of the police club at Cambourne, Cornwall, was sentenced yesterday to nine months' imprisonment.

Fredrick Arthur Jordan, aged 52, holder of the police long service and good conduct medal, pleaded guilty at Bodmin Crown Court to four offences of false accounting.

Mr Michael Brodric, for the prosecution, said Inspector Jordan "got his sums wrong" and in 1980 the club's accountant found a £783 shortfall in the books. During the first two years as treasurer he had managed to repay the amounts he had borrowed, but at the end of the third year he had "grossly overstretched" himself by about £2,500.

## Social services budget rises 'inadequate'

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Most social services departments plan to increase spending in real terms this year, according to a survey conducted by the influential Association of Directors of Social Services. But those increases will not suffice to maintain services, given the growing numbers of elderly people and children in care, the association claims.

Over England and Wales as a whole social services budgets will be reduced by 0.5 per cent in real terms, at a time when the Government acknowledges that 2 per cent annual growth is needed to maintain the present level.

The survey, the third carried out by the association, has achieved the highest response rate so far. In total, 82 of the 116 social services departments completed ques-

tionnaires. The results showed that 44 authorities would increase their budgets in 1981-82, while seven were pegging theirs, and 31 imposing reductions of up to 10 per cent.

The surveys, which guarantee anonymity to responding authorities, have become one of the most important sources of information on social services spending.

In 70 of the 82 authorities questioned, overall income to social services departments is expected to increase, from £162.5m last year to almost £180m.

Personal Social Services Expenditure in Staffing and Activities. (Secretary, ADSS, Social Services Department, Civic Centre, Rivington Bridge, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8PA) ES.

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## Fear of renewed Chad unrest as Libyans leave

Ndjamena, Nov. 9.—President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad said today he expected the first contingents of pan-African peace-keeping forces to arrive in his war-torn country very soon.

The President, who flew back to Chad from Nigeria on Saturday after attending a 32-nation Franco-African summit in Paris, said he was satisfied with the pace at which Libyan troops were being withdrawn from Ndjamena.

According to residents near the airport, Libya has sent up to 10 aircraft a day to fly out the estimated 10,000 troops which have been in Chad since Libya's intervention 11 months ago to help the Goukouni regime's fight against guerrilla forces.

The Libyans began to withdraw last week at the President's request and are to be replaced by the six-nation African force.

The force is to be made up of contingents from Senegal, Benin, Togo, Guinea and Zaire, with logistical support from Gabon and France. French officials, who met President Goukouni here yesterday, told him France was ready to fly Zairean troops to Chad "as soon as Goukouni gives us the word", informed sources said.

In Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, President Mobutu Sese Seko, of Zaire, said that the vanguard of Zairean troops sent to Chad were arriving or about to arrive there.

However, in Brussels, Mr. Nguzi Karl-Bond, the former Zaire Prime Minister, today urged the Organization of African Unity not to send Zaire troops to Chad. Mr. Nguzi said Zaire troops were generally un-

disciplined and many had taken part in civilian massacres.

In Ndjamena, President Goukouni voiced fears that the vacuum left by the Libyan troop withdrawal could cause renewed civil unrest.

Mr. Goukouni said that "the idea of difficulties is not to be ruled out", adding "we sense the beginning of ill-will in the capital".

He described the continuing Libyan withdrawal from Chad as "satisfactory", and expressed the hope that this would be from all Chad territory, including the Aouzou strip bordering Libya.

According to a document signed by Chad and The Organization of African Unity, a "permanent committee" of OAU heads of state will be charged with assuring the good conduct of peace-keeping operations in Chad.

The six-month agreement on the peace-keeping force may be renewed by "tacit" extension.

### Government falls in Khartoum

Khartoum: President Nimeiry of Sudan said today that he had dismissed the Government, the Sudanese Press Agency reported.

The report said the President had asked ministers to carry on dealing with day-to-day business until a new administration could be appointed.

President Nimeiry was reported as saying that the main task of the new government would be to carry out economic reforms. He also announced a devaluation of the Sudanese pound.—AFP and Reuters.

### Wine exports boom

## Russians raise a toast to Chateau Moldavia

From Michael Binyon, Kishinev, Moldavia, Nov. 9

In the fight against alcoholism, the Soviet republic of Moldavia, tucked away in the hills on the Romanian border, could play an increasingly vital role.

This small, sunny spot produces a third of all the dry wine in the Soviet Union, and the struggle to wean Russians off vodka, Soviet officials are promoting the consumption of light, good quality wine as a substitute.

Already the Soviet Union is one of the world's largest wine producers and consumers. In terms of land used for the cultivation of grapes, it ranks third after Spain and Italy.

Consumption is rising, and the Soviet Union exports increasing quantities of the better white wines and especially champagne—grown almost exclusively in the non-Russian southern part of the country.

Europe and, more profitably to West Germany.

For Moldavia, a republic carved out of the land seized by Stalin from the Romanians in 1940, wine has always been big business. Wine-testing stations and vineyards were established more than 100 years ago when the area, then known as Bessarabia, was still part of the Ottoman empire.

Grapes adorn the republic's crest, and wine accounts for half its income, being the most profitable sector of the local economy.

With the collectivization of agriculture, all vineyards are incorporated in state and collective farms, and vary in size from villages producing limited amounts of top quality wine on the French chateau model, to vast enterprises bottling millions of gallons harvested from the surrounding hills.

Moldavia produces more than 100 different wines, as well as numerous brandies and fortified wines.

One such farm not far from Kishinev, the capital, produces more than two million gallons a year at a profit of 4m roubles (£3m).

It also houses a wine institute, begun in 1842, that trains 1,000 students from all parts of the Soviet Union, teaching them the breeding and cultivation of grapes, the scientific basis of wine production and other aspects of the industry.

"Try this Primavera—a delicate white, first created on this farm in 1964", Mr. Ilya Kozhokar, the institute's director, tells visitors. "None is subtle bouquet of China roses: it has already won three medals in international competitions."

He swills the pale splash in the tulip-shaped tasting glass and judges it according to the Soviet 10-point system, which awards 0.5 marks for transpa-

rency, 0.5 for colour, 3 for bouquet, 5 for taste and 1 for typicity. He is a forceful, enthusiastic professional, who has spent time in France and is not modest in making claims for the best of the Moldavian wines.

Primavera, like Victoria, AL-legrout, and other dainty whites, is cheap at just over a pound a bottle. But it cannot be found in Moscow or other Soviet cities.

Demand for the good wines may be high, but it is more profitable for Soviet wine stores to stock the mass-produced Georgian whites or the rough, fortified wines that cost more and are swilled, like vodka, by the undiscriminating simply for their high alcoholic content.

The Soviet press has repeatedly deplored a system which discriminates against the good wines. Moldavian officials insist they are ready to increase production, but they blame the vodka-drinking tradition in the north and distribution difficulties for the indifference to good table wines in most of Russia.

Moldavia, like all of Europe was swept last century by Phylloxera, the insect that almost destroyed the vineyards of France and Germany. The Kishinev institute conducts research into fumigation, grafting and possible ways of dealing with this apparently ineradicable pest.

The republic is also trying to develop mechanical grape harvesters, but Mr. Kozhokar admitted that an ideal machine is still a long way off. The grape harvest will continue to demand a large seasonal work force, supplemented in Moldavia as elsewhere by the drafting of students and factory workers into the vineyards.

The scorching dry summer that engulfed European Russia this year, such disastrous effects for the grain and other crops, will lead to a particularly good year for Moldavian wine—one of the few in the past decade.

All peasants have vines on their private plots and are allowed to make as much wine as they want. All state farms on suitable land grow grapes, as wine production brings in far more money than the raising of crops or livestock. The difference this year will be especially marked.

As with most Soviet products, advertising and promotion of Soviet wine, especially overseas, has far to go. Moldavia is building a new champagne factory to cope with rising export demand, but so far the best quality Moldavian wines are still drunk in Moldavia, brought out at any festive occasion.

## UN tries to end deadlock

From Our Correspondent, New York, Nov. 9

Dr. Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, and Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, his challenger for the post, are being pressed to relinquish their candidacy, at least temporarily, as the Security Council entered into its third week of deadlock.

Many members felt the time was ripe for other candidates to place their names on the ballot and to test the waters.

The pressure which has been on Mr. Salim, who is Tanzania's Foreign Minister, since the first day of balloting has shifted to Dr. Waldheim.

Since a number of potential compromise candidates have indicated that they are unwill-

ing to enter the race so long as Dr. Waldheim and Mr. Salim are running, the Council has decided to press them to bow out for a while.

Neither Dr. Waldheim nor Mr. Salim have indicated publicly that they might withdraw.

It is understood that they fear that a temporary withdrawal might prove permanent should the Council favour one of the compromise candidates. Dr. Waldheim, however, has emerged as the leading dark horse in a race where dark horses abound. It was hoped that, as the first to declare his conditional candidacy, he would become a contender during the next round of voting.



Papal greeting for Mrs Gandhi in Rome for the United Nations conference.

## Gandhi urges more on food, less on arms

Rome, Nov. 9.—Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, today urged more spending on food and less on arms in a speech to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's twenty-first international conference here.

"The expenditure incurred on a new intercontinental ballistic missile could plant 200 million trees, irrigate one million hectares (2.4 million acres), feed 50 million malnourished children in developing countries (or) buy a million tons of fertilizers," Mrs. Gandhi said in her 45-minute address.

Mrs. Gandhi pointed to her own country as a model for other developing nations, in food. India claims it achieved grain self-sufficiency five years ago, although the Prime Minister admitted that some citizens are still hungry because the food is not spread around evenly.

India has been criticized abroad for its atomic programme, partly because of the impression that it was squandering money that should be used to fight poverty. The Govern-

ment maintains that its 1974 atomic blast was for peaceful research.

The 152-member conference is the FAO governing body. It is meeting for three weeks to plan how to fight hunger and encourage rural development.

—AP. Sofia: Before Mrs. Gandhi left here for Italy, she signed a joint statement with her Bulgarian hosts in which India and Bulgaria condemned the international arms race and pledged to widen relations.

—AP. The latest incident is the first reported dogfight between Angolan and South African aircraft, and suggests a growth in the war. Until now, South African jets have ruled the skies over southern Angola.

According to the South African statement, the Mirages detected two MIGs heading towards Namibia. They took action when the Angolan jets began combat manoeuvres. One was shot down and the second was allowed to fly away "because we are not at war with Angola".

The South African Defence Force intends to release aerial photographs showing that the second MIG was clearly in the sights of the South African aircraft.

## South Africa admits shooting down Angolan MiG jet

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, Nov. 9

South Africa today admitted it had shot down an Angolan MiG21 jet in a dogfight over the "operational" area, the unspecified combat zone straddling the border between Namibia (South-West Africa) and Angola.

The statement by Defence Headquarters in Pretoria came after Angolan claims that on Thursday South African aircraft bombed and rocketed Army positions at Cahama, about 120 miles inside Angola.

The South African statement said the MIG was flown by a Cuban. A spokesman said that interceptors of orders from ground control to the pilot were in Spanish, so it was assumed he was Cuban. The Angolan news agency, Angop, said the pilot was wounded.

South Africa denied that its Mirages had attacked the Angolan aircraft deep inside Angola. The spokesman said the Angolan aircraft had attacked the "South African" aircraft, which were on a self-defence patrol.

In the last few years several South African aircraft, including helicopters, have been shot down while flying in low-level support of ground attacks into Angola.

—AP. The latest incident is the first reported dogfight between Angolan and South African aircraft, and suggests a growth in the war. Until now, South African jets have ruled the skies over southern Angola.

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South Africa launched a 13-day ground and air strike into Angola in August and claimed to have killed up to 1,000 guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) and Angolan troops.

It said that Swapo and Angolan units were totally integrated. Four Soviet Army advisers were killed in the attack, codenamed Operation Protea, and a sergeant-major captured. There are an estimated 1,000 Soviet advisers in Angola and between 14,000 and 19,000 Cubans.

South Africa has not confirmed the Angolan Government's latest claims about the attack on Cahama. They coincided with the final stages of the mission to Africa of representatives of the Western group, led by Dr. Chester Crocker, United States Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, which is working to resume the initiative for a peaceful settlement of the Namibia dispute.

## Strike goes on as Solidarity seeks talks

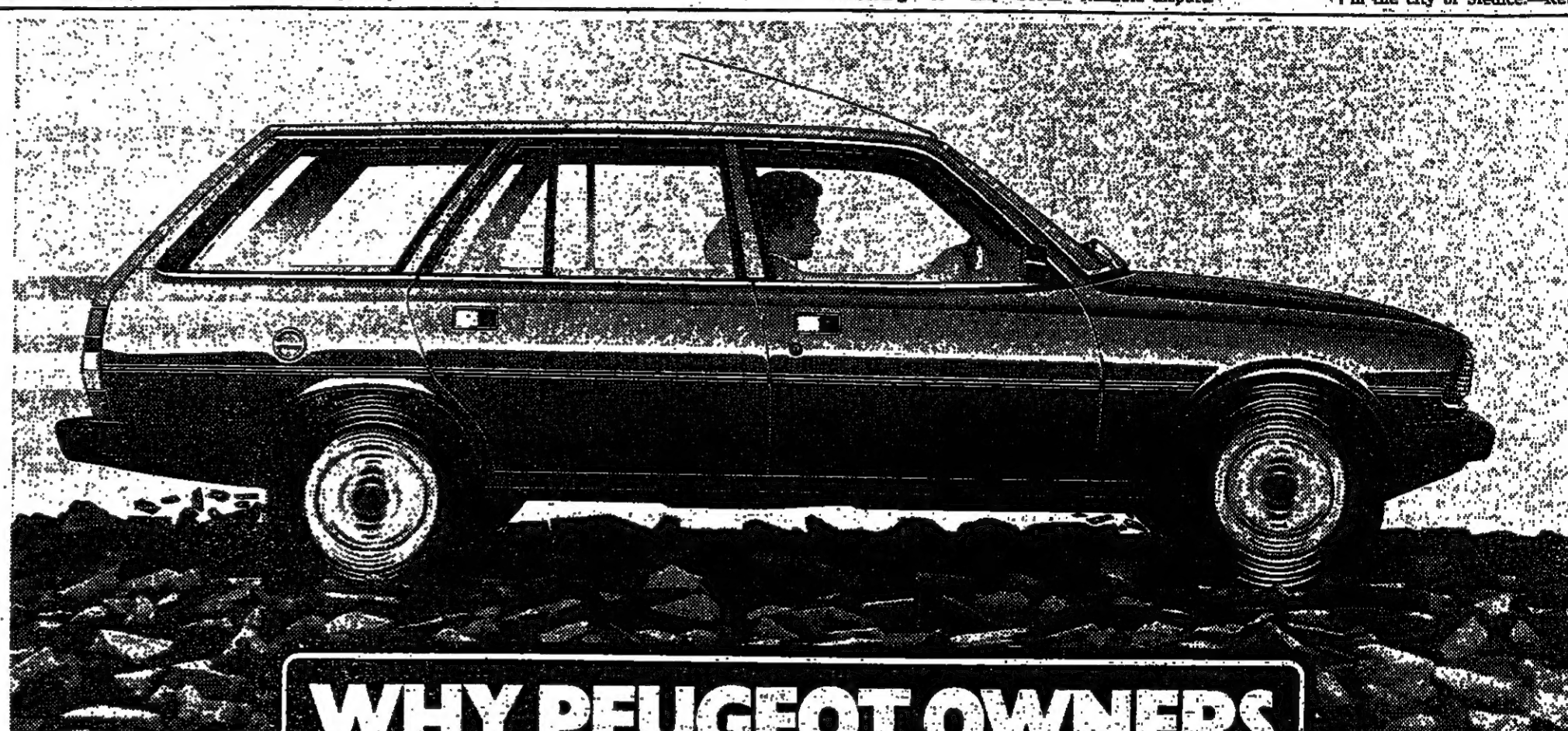
Warsaw, Nov. 9.—Attempts to end Poland's longest regional strike failed today as Solidarity leaders called on the Government to open peace talks in Warsaw on Friday.

Failure to resolve the 19-day-old dispute in the western region of Zielona Gora and continuing labour protests elsewhere casts a cloud over the planned negotiations, but the Solidarity spokesman said he did not believe they would affect the outcome.

"The strikes are a problem, but they are not going to jeopardize the course of negotiations," Mr. Marek Brunne said. He also said that the union's executive presidium had drawn up a list of six issues which it wanted to discuss with the authorities after last week's important meeting between church, Government and Solidarity leaders.

The six suggested by Solidarity's Presidium today were: A social council for control of the economy; union access to the mass media; economic reform; self-management and democratic elections to local councils; the rule of law; and price reform.

Solidarity officials in Zielona Gora said the authorities did not show up to sign an agreement because of late misgivings about some of the clauses. Another strike continued at the Sosnowiec coal mine in Silesia, there was a brief newspaper stoppage in Wroclaw, and farmers continued a sit-in at a Communist youth headquarters in the city of Siedlce.—Reuters.



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# Russia has three-to-one advantage Haig thinks

Zomor, one of the "brains" of the "terrorist organization" responsible for the "Khmeimni plot" in Egypt.

□ More arrests: The Government today extended its crackdown on dissidents with the arrest of about 65 people who are accused of being members of two underground communist organizations, bent on overthrowing the regime (Our correspondent writes).

Of those people arrested before Sadat's murder, many were rounded up in connexion with the crackdown, which left more than 80 dead.

Reports in the official party newspaper *Maga* said that those people who had been recently arrested had distributed pamphlets urging Egyptian students to leave the Camp David peace accords with Israel.

The newspaper said they had sought to establish a "people's democratic republic of Egypt with strong ties to the Soviet Union".

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## BALKAN MEETING

Bucharest. — President Sergej Kraiger of Yugoslavia has arrived in Bucharest for an "official visit" and friends' visit to Romania at the invitation of President Nicolae Ceausescu.

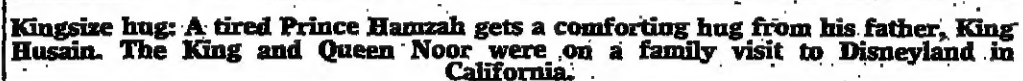
## **Inside Haddad's fiefdom** gunman's offer is not to be refused

Maybe it was the Detroit Lions supporter at the Christian militia checkpoint who wanted to discuss the finer points of American football, or it could have been the one who wanted to know who blithely played volleyball just up the road as if United Nations peacekeeping was really a peaceful pursuit. But one did not get the impression today that Major Saad Hadad, the commander of the militia in southern Lebanon was in a state of domestic turmoil.

Questions about the major's much-trumpeted resignation evoked signs of almost perverse disinterest. Israeli soldiers in the cramped village of Bent Jball, an L-shaped hamlet that still boasts a dreadful clutch of riven buildings that suffered in the Israeli invasion of 1978.

In the swift militia office, the men cived torch troops, private army and the Lebanese soldiers who prefer his leadership to that of Mr Elias Sarkis did not even seem surprised the Western journalists had arrived from Beirut and been allowed to enter the enclave — something that few reporters are allowed to do. The major's men prefer to receive visits from Jerusalem-based correspondents. "How is Beirut?" one of them asked and one could not help detecting a note of bemusement in his question.

A militia officer in a straw cowboy hat who sat slumped in a broken leather chair, turned the handle of an ancient radio-cassette and knew nothing about the major's resignation", he said wearily. "But why don't you ask him yourself?", outside the office, villagers clustered around the fruit stands in the village market, one of them hostility against the doorposts of the one-table coffee house. Two air raid bunkers — identical to those which the Israelis have built inside their kibbutz across the border — stood abandoned in



## Doubts on Quebec's response to package

By David Spanier

Mrs Thatcher stuck to her guns yesterday on insisting that the European Community countries would pursue their own policy towards peace in the Middle East.

While Britain and her European partners, France, Italy and the Netherlands, would send troops to the Sinai peacekeeping force, if an appropriate basis could be found for the arrangement, the Prime Minister made it clear that the European Community would not send any troops at the same time they would be in line with their existing policy, set out in the Venice Declaration.

Speaking at the end of talks with Signor Giovanni Spadolini, the Italian Prime Minister, in the corridors of Anglo-Italian summits, Mrs Thatcher said that participation in the Sinai force came under the Camp David agreement, whereas European policy, as she reaffirmed it, was complementary to Camp David.

Signor Spadolini encouraged Mrs Thatcher to say that any contacts were going on in Washington even as they met yesterday.

Neither the Prime Minister, nor the Foreign Office, where Lord Carrington had parallel talks with Signor Colombo, the Italian Foreign Minister, would hazard a guess about when, or even if, any agreement would be worked out with the United States acceptable to Israel.

Mrs Thatcher noted, however, that under the terms of the Camp David agreement, any agreement about the peacekeeping force would have to be agreed by both Israel and Egypt. Asked whether this meant Israel had a veto, Mrs Thatcher said the force did not have to move into Sinai until after March 1982, and there was time for consultation.

It is understood that Mr John Fretwell, British Minister at the Washington embassy, is conducting the negotiations with the Americans in co-operation with any other European envoys directly, though its voice is crucial in the matter, because the invitation to join the peacekeeping force comes from the United States.

The main topic at yesterday's Anglo-Italian summit was the European Community mandate, covering social and industrial policies, reform of the common agricultural policy, and restructuring the Community budget, which will be discussed in detail at the forthcoming European Council in London.

From John Best, Ottawa, Nov. 9

Mr. Jean Chretien, the Federal Justice Minister, expressed hope today that an agreement will be reached this week on bringing Quebec into Canada's newly concluded constitutional reform plan.

Mr. Chretien, Mr. Trudeau's chief lieutenant on constitutional matters, admitted, however, that he does not know whether Mr. René Lévesque, the Quebec premier, wants an agreement.

He told reporters he is not talking to Lévesque. Mr. Chretien's government since Friday "but none of my phone calls have come back yet".

Mr. Chretien confirmed that the government has decided to delay parliamentary action on the new constitutional accord reached here last week on bringing home the 1867 British North America Act from Britain with an amending formula with a Bill of Rights added.

The delay is to allow time to persuade Quebec to join the other nine provinces in accepting the accord. "I hope it will be finalized this week, if we show flexibility and the other side (Quebec) shows flexibility," Mr. Chretien said.

Mr. Lévesque angrily rejected the agreement, which is the culmination of four days of bargaining among the 11 first ministers, saying that it would diminish his French-speaking province's powers.

He objected to the bill of rights, provisions for minority language education rights in all provinces across Canada and for worker mobility rights; and to the amending formula, because it did not provide for complete veto powers that extend out of federal-provincial social development programmes.

The resolution giving effect to the accord will not be presented to the Commonsense until after Thursday, which is budget day. Mr. Chretien did not know how long it might imply that it would depend on the prospects of getting Quebec to accept a compromise.

He emphasized that the Government will not wait indefinitely to get the measure through the Canadian Parliament and into the hands of the British Parliament for final disposition. "We have proceeded. We cannot wait any more."

Mr. Lévesque is expected to give some indication of his attitude toward a negotiated settlement when he addresses the newly-reopened Quebec National Assembly this week.

Last week he said there would be incalculable consequences for Canadian unity if the federal Government proceeded against the wishes of Quebec, which accounted for about a quarter of Canada's population.

## Ransom may be sought for return of St Lucy's bones

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Nov 9

The mortal remains of St. Lucy, the patron of opticians, are still in the hands of her captors, who seized them on Saturday evening from a Venetian church. It is thought they may seek a ransom.

The two armed men stole the body after making the priest and a young Venetian couple lie down on the stone floor of the church. The gunmen, in an historical sense, were following an old tradition.

Lucy is generally thought to have been born in the Sicilian city of Syracuse in the year 281 or 283. She took a vow of chastity in order to obtain a miraculous cure for her mother. Her vow cost her the devotion of the emperor, who was supposed to marry and he denounced her to the Roman authorities as a Christian.

This was during one of Diocletian's persecutions. She was martyred around 303, and her body was later reverently placed in the early church.

After the muslim invasion of Syracuse in 879, the body was concealed but in 1040 the Byzantines seized it and sent it in homage to the Emperor in Constantinople.

The body was made off with it again, taking it home with them from Constantinople along with the famous horses of St Mark's.

Lucy is a popular saint in Rome alone some 20 churches are dedicated to her and the towns bear her name, as indeed does Venice's main station. Syracuse still feels the loss of her remains deeply and periodically asks Venice to return her to her birth place, so much so that there are suspicions that the two young masked bandits who made off with her have taken her to Syracuse.

- From Nicholas Hirst  
Washington, Nov 9

The Soviet Union has a three-to-one advantage over the United States in nuclear missiles and aircraft for a European war, according to Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State.

But a comparison based on sheer numbers of weaponry did not give the whole picture. Calculations of superiority were affected by the accuracy of weapons, understanding of the nature of the conflict and "countless unquantifiable characteristics," Mr Haig said in an interview published in the *New York Times* on Saturday.

His comments, which in part were an answer to the assertion by President Brezhnev that the USSR was approaching parity in nuclear forces with Europe, came during growing European fears about a limited nuclear war and rising opposition to new American missiles being based in Europe.

So far, Mr Haig said, Western governments had been "admirably solid and consistent" in the face of Soviet propaganda and big demonstrations against plans to put nuclear missiles in Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles in Europe in 1983.

But there were dangers from the opposition. One was that the demonstrations would spread to the United States and the other was that it would lead to an American tendency to pull back from the defence of Europe.

He suggested this was nowhere near that point today. The European mood was not a "pacifist and neutralist trend" so much as a "heightened concern about all things nuclear."

In the forthcoming talks with the Russians on limiting the arms race, the Russians in Europe beginning in America on November 30, Geneva would be seeking a substantial reduction in Soviet European forces, but it was not the American objective to agree to a freeze on the United States missile deployment before the Pershing and Cruise missiles were installed.

The United States wished to change the terms in which nuclear strength was measured, counting not only the number of missile launchers but on the number of warheads and their explosive power.

Mr Haig cautiously welcomed Mr Brezhnev's recent declaration that "Soviet policy would exclude a preventive war and the concept of a first strike."

# Vineyards in France have a quality year

**From Jonathan Feinby**  
**Paris, Nov 9**

This year's French wine is generally good, but volume is down on a year throughout the country according to reports from the main production areas.

In Bordeaux, the growers' association forecast that 1981 would go down as a great year because of seven weeks of sunshine before the harvest.

Red wine would be as good as the growers of the 1970s and both dry and sweet wines would be of high standard.

Reports from Medoc and Saint Emilion are particularly encouraging. While quality will be high, production in Bordeaux is likely to be 25 per cent below the 1980 level.

A somewhat larger cut in volume is apparent in Burgundy, where white wines are showing particularly high quality. The reds are expected as having good character and colour, but not equalling the 1979 vintage.

Spring frosts helped to reduce production in Beaujolais, where winemakers to be bottled on Thursday and put on sale on Sunday. Total Beaujolais production this year is down to just under one million hectolitres compared to 1.2 million in 1980. Winemakers are hoping, however, that quality will be more regular than in 1980.

Further south, quality is good in the Côtes-du-Rhône, some exceptional wines are reported from Châteauneuf-du-Pape, and good quality in the Côtes de Ventoux and Tricastin vineyards.

In the mass production wine fields of the south-west, production is running at about 28 million hectolitres compared to 33 million in 1980. The bulk of the south-west volume of muscadet and gros plant from the Nantes region will be only half the 1980 output and Loire wines have also been affected by a poor harvest.

Champagne growers, who have been hit by a series of low production years, report another slump in production this year. The total of 130 to 140 million bottles which they expect will not be enough to enable them to replenish stocks. The weather, however, has boosted quality.

One area in which production has not been hit seriously is Alsace, where an average output of 800,000 hectolitres is reported. Cognac producers are optimistic about 1981, since the wines they use have the right qualities to produce a very high quality

## TENSION INCREASES IN KOREA

**From Our Correspondent  
Panmunjom, Nov 9**

Tension between North and South Korea is increasing, according to the 408th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission at the truce village of Panmunjom today.

The North Korean delegation, who called the meeting, said the South is committing 4,080 acts of military provocation and espionage against the North between August 27 and October 31.

Among the alleged armistice violations cited, the North side said that the South had fired into the Northern zone on several occasions and that two FSA fighter bombers intruded into North Korean air space on October 29.

Rear Admiral James H. Thompson, spokesman for the American-led United Nations Command, which acts on behalf of South Korea, said the North Korean allegations were "a litany of fabrications."

**In memoriam**  
Colombey-les-Deux-Eglises  
— About 500 veterans of the Free French army, and the French Resistance gathered for memorial services marking the eleventh anniversary of the death of General Charles de Gaulle.

### Launch postponed

Paris — The test of the fourth Ariane European satellite launcher from the Kourou base in French Guyana has been postponed from December 14 to 19 because of a strike the European Space Agency said.

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**Law Report November 10 1981 Court of Appeal**

## Absence of arbitral findings can be relied upon if they cover new point of law

of Appeal, which published its award in the form of a special case and dismissed the sellers' appeal both in relation to clause 21 and clause 22. The hearing of the special case the judge held that the sellers failed under clause 22 but succeeded under clause 21. The buyers' counsel, Messrs. Davis, Johnson, QC and Mr. Nicholas, and Messrs. Legg-Jones for the buyers, Mr. Kenneth Robison, QC and Mr. A. M. D. Havelock-Allan for the sellers.

**LORD JUSTICE KERR**, delivering the reserved judgment of the court, said that Mr. Johnson submitted that the special case was wrongly formulated because they lacked certain necessary further findings of fact, in the special case. The question was whether the judge was correct.

It was said that it was necessary to refer to developments concerning Garita 100 which had resulted from decisions on other special cases since the publication of the present Award from a string of sellers having to identify the shipper, it had also been recognized that they had to establish certain further facts in relation to clause 21 and 22. It was to be able to rely on clause 21 or 22.

The Embargo was qualified by certain exceptions, or loopholes. Sellers had to establish, first, that the shipper was a question mark, and secondly, that the shipper had been excluded from the loopholes, by showing that at 5 pm on

June 27, 1973, the shipper had no soyabean meal on lighter destined for an exporting vessel or being loaded on an exporting vessel. The court fixed the position on the authorities.

Second, it had been believed that the sellers had to establish that the goods were the subject matter of the unfulfilled contract would have been shipped by the time the vessel was due to leave to be known as the "but for" point.

However, the need for sellers to establish that their goods was ultimately negated by the fact that the goods were in *Handelsgesellschaft mbH v. Vanden Aegene-Lozenq PMS* (1978) 2 LIR 109.

As that point disappeared, it emerged that there was another fact which the sellers had to establish, namely, that at the time the shipper, not the sellers had on June 27, 1973, "unappropriated soyabean meal affloat which had been shipped prior to the time the vessel was unappropriated goods affloat" point.

In so describing the development of the law the court was referring in particular to the *Handelsgesellschaft mbH v. Vanden Aegene-Lozenq* The "But for" point was very much in the minds of all concerned when the board heard the sellers' appeal. It was common ground that neither had they appreciated the significance of the "unappropriated goods affloat" point, either in

relation to the shipper, Bremer Handels, or to the sellers.

Having held that, on a balance of probabilities, Bremer Handels were the shippers, the board found, in effect, that Bremer Handels could not use any of the sophistries which the sellers had so successfully decided the "loophole point" in the sellers' favour.

Mr. Johnson's principal submission might be that the development of the law, was that the sellers were still lacking two crucial findings of fact — they could not show either that the goods were not goods, or that they were not goods, or that they had themselves no goods available.

The judge considered whether those findings were crucial to the sellers' ability to rely successfully on clause 21. He concluded that they were not. The buyers were entitled to rely on the absence of those findings. The judge held that they were not.

The court had to look at the position in principle. It was possible that, at a party might, on the hearing of the special case, argue any point of law which could be seen to arise from the facts found or findings incorporated into the special case.

However, there were well settled exceptions. Their effect was that a party might not raise a new point of law in the special case, or to the other party. Thus a party would generally be precluded from raising a new point if it

was one which in a party could, and reasonably should, have argued before the arbitral tribunal, and the court considered that the award was not covered by any finding of fact, with the result that the award would have to be remitted to the arbitrator to make some further finding of fact to enable the point to be argued.

As to the judge's conclusion on the issue, the court considered to say that in its view the present case was fundamentally different and that his reasoning could not be supported.

The present case was not one in which the buyers, seeking to raise the "unappropriated goods" point, were asking for a remission, but were simply asking the court to find as a fact that the sellers required, but lacked, the necessary findings, since it was undisputed that the burden of bringing themselves within clause 21 rested upon the sellers.

Mr. Lefgh-Jones had submitted that the proper course was for the sellers, who lacked findings of fact, to apply for a remission. The judge said that "he was greatly surprised" by this submission, based on the basis of the decided authorities, and because of the consideration that having regard to the long passage of time and the Board of Trade's decision, which might be made, no remission should be made at that stage in any event.

With that conclusion the court

agreed. The situation up to this point was somewhat ironical: the buyers had been precluded from raising new points of fact, and the court could not find it appropriate to remit the award for further findings which were needed, if at all, not by them, but by the sellers.

In effect, it might be said that, if the judge decided that the buyers could not raise the new points, the court would not order a remission in favour of the sellers. To that extent the court considered that his decision could not be supported.

There were also other restrictions on a party's right to raise a new point of law on a special case, but the points at issue in this case had not been dealt with by the arbitral tribunal.

It was clear that a party which does not take a new point when the court was satisfied that the party was entitled to do so, could not appeal the opposite party to believe that the point in question would not be taken, with the result that neither the opposite party nor the court could be asked to make findings to the point. It would obviously be unfair to allow the point to be raised thereafter.

For the present, the court was concerned with the question of Fremas's submission to the exclusion of the sellers. At the time of the hearing before the board it never occurred "to anyone" that the "unappropriated goods" clause

point in relation to Bremer Handels, was one which required consideration.

There was no tacit acceptance or agreement on the part of the sellers or the board that the point was not being taken, since in the state of the law at that time it was perfectly lawful to do so. No one was to be criticised for that.

The present case was not one where the buyers had had an advantage in the sense that they were seeking a point which they could, and reasonably should, have taken before the board. It was a case where the buyers had been in the legal profession had had the same as the sellers, and again as the result of subsequent decisions of the courts, which had changed the law.

What was the answer which justice required? It was not the law at the time, it was not the law as it now was.

The only question was whether the buyers were precluded from relying on the law as it stood. In the present case they could not be so precluded in principle. The sellers must fail on the law as it stood because they lacked the advantage of fact which were now known to be necessary.

It was in no way the fault of the buyers in failing to take the position of Bremer Handels, and that the matter remained unconsidered; it could not be said that

the buyers led anyone to believe that they were not taking the point which they were now seeking to raise.

Under the unusual circumstances it seemed that, in principle, the consequences flowing from the law as it was now known to be in fact upon the sellers, since in the fact found by the board of inquiry the case failed under clause 21.

In the present case, Mr Rokison had explained, without challenge, that evidence had been given that the buyers' trading position at the hearing had been based on the fact that the relevant documentary material was then available.

However, he was never asked on behalf of the buyers if: the buyers had appropriated June goods.

In the court's view, if the buyers had wished to take the point, they should have raised it at that occasion, and they could not rely on the absence of any pleading in regard to it at the hearing. However, for the reasons already explained, the court concluded that different considerations applied to the issue as to a relation to the shipper. There was no way for the buyers to contribute to the court's finding of the authority which gave the buyers from taking that point at the present stage. On that issue the court differed from the judge.

Solicitors: Richards, Butler & Co.; Thomas Cooper & Subbar.



# Polarization sets Belgium closer to political chaos

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Nov 9

The Belgian general election has made it more difficult than ever to find a firm Government for the troubled country. The results have shown a polarization to the right and left, with the centre-right Christian Democrats losing heavily. Only the Ecologist Movement, which won four seats in both houses, had any real cause for celebration.

The result is that there is no dominant party to form the nucleus of a future Government, while ideological differences rule out any coalition capable of bridging the deep linguistic and economic gap which splits the country.

The Social Christians, paying the price for their indecisive election campaign after 23 years in government, now have exactly the same number of seats as the Liberals. The right-wing Liberals, alone of the three major parties, picked up votes extensively in all parts of the country and claim to represent the real movement for change. But they are still significantly behind the other two groups in strength.

It is thought that the success of the Liberal Party will lead King Baudouin to pick Mr Frans Gossens, one of their elder statesmen, for the task of trying to find a viable coalition. If and when he succeeds it would be the sixth Belgian Government in three years and the thirty-first since the war. Its chances of success look no better than any of its immediate predecessors.

The underlying message of the 6.9 million electorate to the political parties is that they do not really believe in central Government's ability to solve the economic and social problems facing the country.

As a result, the Flemish state party, the Volksunie, proportionately had the highest number of gains, while the French-speaking Socialist Party in Wallonia, which had championed the cause of regional government, made slight gains largely at the expense of the weaker French-speaking parties.

The obvious temptation in forming the next Government is to create a centre-right coalition between the Social Christians and the Liberal parties, with the Volksunie also being invited to take part. The immediate problem about such a five-party coalition is that it would leave the Walloon Socialists, as junior members of the last coalition, forced the general election because they were opposed to Government plans to restructure the steel industry.

PARTY	LOWER HOUSE SEATS (1978)	ATE (1978)
Flemish Social Christians	43 (57.2229)	
Walloon Social Christians	18 (25.812)	
Flemish Liberals	26 (26.1313)	
Walloon Liberals	35 (32.1818)	
Flemish Socialists	26 (22.1411)	
Walloon Socialists	24 (15.1109)	
Volksunie	24 (14.107)	
Vlaams Blok	(1)	
Francophone Front/Walloon Party	8 (15.409)	
Communists	24 (11)	
Ecologists	4 (10.400)	
Anti-tax Party	3 (1.100)	

## COUNCIL SEATS

Flemish Community Council: Socialists 42; Liberals 24; Social Christians 20; Others 22.
Walloon Regional Council: Socialists 42; Liberals 29; Social Christians 25; Others 8.
Flemish Council: Social Christians 25; Liberals 26; Volksunie 20; Others 9.



## US warns Japanese on defence

From Our Own Correspondent Tokyo, Nov 9

Japan came under new pressure to take greater responsibility for its own defence today when Mr Walter Stoessel, the American Under-Secretary of State, warned Japanese leaders that an influential section of the United States Congress has linked the issue to Tokyo's trade surplus with America.

At the same time the Japanese Government announced that it has asked the United States not to increase the number of nuclear weapons deployed in Asia in view of the proposed talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe.

Warning Japanese leaders today that their trade surplus with the United States is expected to reach a "disturbing" level of \$15,000m (about £7,900m) this year, Mr Stoessel pointed out that a new wave of anger is building up against Japan because it devotes less than 1 per cent of its gross national product to defence.

Mr Stoessel is reported to have told Mr Sumo Sonoda, the Japanese Foreign Minister, that the United States Government did not support the move in Congress to link trade with the demand for increased defence spending. But such a mood reflected the feelings of frustration and dissatisfaction building up in the United States.

## Red Cross denounces Gulf war violations

Manila, Nov 9. — The International Committee of the Red Cross today accused both Iran and Iraq of violating their Geneva Convention commitments during 14 months of fighting in the Gulf war.

Mr Alexander Hay, president of the twenty-fourth International Red Cross conference here today that in Iran prisoners of war were held for several months in places of detention that did not meet the requirements of international law.

He added that although Red Cross inspections were allowed to resume in October, delegates had for some time been prevented from visiting the prisoners without witnesses present.

In Iraq, Mr Hay said, Iranian civilians, children, women and old people rounded up in border regions at the time of the first offensive, were held in prisoner-of-war camps despite repeated representations by the Red Cross. He noted, however, that a number of them had now been repatriated.

The ICRC also expressed deep concern that it was not allowed to offer protection and assistance in Afghanistan, the Western Sahara and parts of the Horn of Africa. — AFP and Reuters.

□ Tehran: Thirty-five people, including several babies, were killed today at Dezful, in Khuzestan in the south-west, when a minibus was hit by an Iraqi shell, Tehran radio reported. — Reuters and AFP.

## Smugglers' paradise burnt down

From Karan Thapar Lagos, Nov 9

What is reputed to be Nigeria's best stocked smugglers' market burnt down at the weekend sending perhaps £5m worth of contraband up in smoke.

Alayabagba market, known as Alagba, or to its vast expatriate clientele as Smugglers' Paradise, had it all: hundreds of stalls crammed with televisions, cameras, hi-fi systems, bales of Austrian lace, French chiffon and best English worsted.

Eager shopkeepers squatted amid the profusion of wares, beds, lamps, car spare parts, pirate video films of the latest West End hits, American bubble gum and cheap jewelry as the smells of exotic kebabs and rotting vegetables permeated the hot, dusty air.

The fire is reported to have started at Alagba, 10 miles outside Lagos, at 10 pm on Friday. Newspaper accounts of what happened vary. One claims that the firemen did not arrive until 11 hours later. Another alleges that when they did, instead of putting out the blaze they joined in the looting.

The government-owned Daily Times said "good Samaritans" set up road blocks to stop looters making away with the stolen property. Many looters received instant justice at the hands of the mob, but some merely shared their spoils and both parties returned for more.

## Premier keeps to centre line

# Calvo Sotelo takes a grip on the helm

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Nov 9

In an effort to dispense the confusion surrounding the week-old crisis in Spain's ruling party, Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, insists that the party must remain anchored in the centre of the country's political spectrum.

He also said in a statement issued by his office last night that he wishes to lead the party in general elections called at a time of his choosing and not go to the country now in an atmosphere of crisis.

But the Prime Minister is still far from out of the wood because in spite of three lengthy meetings he has not persuaded Señor Agustín Rodríguez Sahagún, the party president, to step down and make way for him.

The basic conflict remains between the followers of Señor Adolfo Suárez, the former premier and brother-in-law of Señor Rodríguez, and the right-wing Christian Democratic wing, which is pulling apart the 165-strong Centre Democratic Union (UCD) party in the lower house.

The tussle is really about what posture to adopt at the next general election which, constitutionally, must be held before March 1983 at the latest. It starts when 15 Social Democrats led by Señor Francisco Fernandez Ordonez, the former Justice Minister, left the party without renouncing the centrist whip.

The "Suaristas", who control the party apparatus, insist that to avoid a political polarization that would be dangerous for Spain's new democracy the UCD must remain a broad-based centre movement. There is awareness that about two million of the votes at the 1979 general election came from the working class, there were more than six million votes in all.

Underlying the ideological struggle is the question of who will be on the five-man national committee drawing

up the lists of UCD candidates at the next elections.

The right-wing Christian Democrats have business and banking interests behind them, and probably sectors of the armed forces, but the Suaristas can still call on a majority of the provincial party organizations.

Señor Calvo Sotelo's declaration last night brought an angry reaction from the conservative Democratic Coalition of Señor Manuel Fraga which already sees the Prime Minister having relinquished, under Suarista pressure, the idea of forming a pre-electoral coalition which his right-wing centre democrats favour.

But Señor Fraga's group only has nine MP's. Opposed to a rightist regrouping are the Catalan regionalists, who also have nine MP's in Madrid, and yesterday they offered the Prime Minister a deal to ensure "the governability of the country".

This is the overriding consideration. At the weekend Señor Felipe Gonzalez, the opposition Socialist leader, publicly urged the Prime Minister not to go to the country now and risk a power vacuum which he feared might give an excuse to those extreme right wingers, civilian and military to attempt another coup.

The remarks provided striking evidence of how fragile the opposition leader judges Spanish democracy to be — and his willingness to avoid exploiting the ruling party's difficulties.

Señor Miguel Delibes, one of Spain's leading novelists, breaking a habitual silence on contemporary politics, has perhaps best summed up the nature of the crisis facing the country: "All the politicians who take up Spain's problems burn themselves out. The Political situation is bad, but we must not lose hope for we are many who believe democracy must be given time to consolidate. If it cannot put down roots, God knows what awaits us in Spain."

## Peking angry over Taiwan

Peking, Nov 9. — China today threatened to downgrade relations with the United States if Washington went ahead with the possible sale of advanced fighter aircraft to Taiwan.

The New China News agency condemned an article in the Wall Street Journal advocating the sale of advanced weapons to Taiwan as "the most bare-faced and outspoken attempt to goad the United States Administration into intervening in China's internal affairs".

The agency also issued a reminder that Peking has not totally ruled out the use of

## CAUTION ON HOSTAGE BARGAINING

Manila, Nov 9. — When hostages are taken and negotiations begin, members of the International Red Cross should stand aside and remain neutral according to a policy document endorsed here today.

At their twenty-fourth conference, Red Cross delegates from 121 countries noted the sharp increase in incidents of hostage-taking during the past 10 years.

The policy paper emphasizes that International Red Cross Committee delegates may materially assist hostages and provide moral comfort, but as a general rule, participation in negotiations between authorities and the perpetrators of such violations "does not come within the category of humanitarian aid".

However, it adds that "in the victim's interest and insofar as there is no other intermediary or direct contact, the Red Cross delegates may intervene at the request of one party and with the agreement of the others".

The paper also said that the Red Cross should ignore pressure. "If, in the hope of saving the hostages' lives, the Red Cross delegates were to exert pressure on the authorities in order that they should give in to the captor's demands, the Red Cross might be blamed for being the unwitting instrument in the seizure of hostages on future occasions by persons encouraged by success." — AFP.

## Burma Parliament elects general as president

Rangoon, Nov 9. — General San Yu, aged 53, a former Army Chief of Staff, was elected President of Burma today, to replace General Ne Win, aged 71, who retired after nearly 20 years in office. The vote by the 475-member parliament was unanimous.

General San Yu had been picked by General Ne Win as his successor. General San Yu headed the published list of candidates nominated by the ruling Socialist Programme Party. Parliament, meeting today for the first time since the general election last month, elected him chairman of the

Council of State, automatically making him President of the Republic. The General was a member of the revolutionary council of colonels set up by General Ne Win to rule Burma when he took over the country in a military coup in 1962. He is a nationalist who firmly believes Burma should remain non-aligned.

He is expected to lead Burma along the same socialist path as his predecessor and little if any change is expected in domestic policy. The Parliament also re-appointed Mr Maung Maung Kha, aged 62, as Prime Minister for a new four-year term. He is a technocrat and moderate and his re-election may indicate that the new Government will continue the policy of recent years under which Burma has accepted foreign aid more readily than previously. He has been Prime Minister since 1978.

General Ne Win announced his planned retirement in August at the last Congress of the Socialist Programme Party, which he founded to implement his socialist policy of self-sufficiency. He said he was giving up the position of head of state because of old age and to ensure a smooth transition of power.

The elections were held a year ahead of schedule to accommodate the change and to enable a fresh government to implement Burma's new four-year economic plan.

General Ne Win: Picked his successor

## Prisoners of conscience



## Taiwan

### Li Ching-jung

By Caroline Moorehead

A journalist known to be highly critical of some of Taiwan's economic policies and to favour calls with the People's Republic of China is serving a five-year prison sentence for sedition. Mr Li Ching-jung was arrested in December, 1979 and convicted of spreading pro-communist propaganda.

In 1960 Mr Li joined the daily newspaper, the China Times. He was dismissed in 1973 after writing a series of articles in which he highlighted corruption in government circles. He moved on immediately to contribute articles to a number of opposition papers, then became editor of the political magazine *Demo-Voice* (*Fubao Chisheng*).

In July 1979 the magazine was banned. A month later, its publisher Mr Hung Chih-liang, was arrested after a visit to the People's Republic.

Five months later, on December 26, during a month of widespread opposition arrests, Li Ching-jung was arrested and held incommunicado for over two months. During prolonged interrogation he confessed to sedition and to the spreading of pro-communist propaganda. On April 25, 1980 he was tried and sentenced by a military tribunal.

## ZAMBIAN UNION LEADER FREED

Lusaka, Nov 9. A High Court judge in Ndola today ordered the immediate release of Mr Newstead Zimba, a trade union leader, the official Zambia news agency reported.

Mr Zimba, general secretary of the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions, was the second of four labour leaders detained in July to be freed.

## High poll expected in Trinidad

From Jeremy Taylor Port of Spain, Nov 9

Trinidad and Tobago went to the polls today to decide whether there will be any important changes after the death in March of Dr Eric Williams, the country's first prime minister, whose ruling People's National Movement (PNM) has won every general election since the granting of self-government by Britain in 1956.

Opinion polls last week suggested a comfortable win for the PNM and Mr George Chambers, Williams' successor. A survey published in the *Trinidad Express* newspaper on November 1 gave the PNM 31 per cent support, against 1 per cent for its nearest rival, the Organisation for National Reconstruction

(ONR), which broke away from the ruling party. It is led by Mr Karl Hudson-Phillips, a lawyer.

The survey indicated 13 per cent support for a three-party National Alliance comprising the Opposition in the last Parliament — the United Labour Front (ULF), the Tobago-based Action Congress (DAC) and the Tappia House Movement — the left-wing National Joint Action Committee polled 1 per cent.

At the last election, in 1976, the PNM won 24 of the 36 seats in the House of Representatives, while the ULF won 10 and the DAC two.

Voting is going on against a background of industrial and

political tension. The country's \$2,000 public servants have been protesting about the Government's failure to complete overdue wage negotiations. Last week many government offices closed and mail piled up in post offices.

Mr Chambers said the main election issue was the defence of the basic democratic freedoms which Williams established and which, he says, the ONR will erode. Mr Hudson-Phillips campaigned for better management of the economy and against corruption and inefficiency while the National Alliance called for reform, which "would for the first time make sense of the legacy left behind by slavery, indenture and colonialism."



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Member: Will the Attorney General answer the question, "Is it the right for the Bill to be introduced in the Legislature in a manner which steps in before the due process of law been completed and prevents defendants from testing the constitutionality of the law, so that the interests of justice?" saying that he would choose words carefully. Sir Michael Myers replied: "The occasion on which a voluntary Bill has been introduced in the Legislature, which the court is satisfied that the defendants are deliberately delaying the criminal proceedings is operated on a number of occasions."

...over the last ten years:



## Party Fashion by Suzy Menkes

It is hard to believe that only five years ago it was smart to look poor. Frayed jeans, peasant patchworks and Third World hand weaves have now been overwhelmed by a tidal wave of rich velvet, ritzy brocade and grand glitter.

It is now fashionable to look very, very rich. This is naturally rather easier if you are rich. But so swift has been the change of mood, that fake rocks already sparkle in the costume jewelry counters and swags of nylon taffeta have brought ball dresses into the High Streets.

The mood for dressing up seems to have emerged simultaneously with both the upper and low crusts. In the pop world, the dead-end decadence of Punk was replaced by the swashbuckle and glitter of the New Romantics. Since the beginning of this year, social diarists have been charting the quickening pace of the foxglove, waltz and disco bopping at deb's dances, and those parties are now filled with glamorous ball gowns and mummy's jewelry.

The poor may always be with us, but so are the rich, and the tinsel-glitter of the rest of us seems to have inspired them to come out of the closet.

Last week I had an appointment at Asprey's to see an exceptionally beautiful diamond star ring and earrings selling at £47,000 apiece. It was spoken for by the time I arrived. I hesitated, even for the purposes of art, to photograph Grosvenor Park's £37,500 Russian sable coat in Harrods Central Hall. They sold it in the trade they say that there is no price resistance at all to expensive clothes; only the cheap end is slow to move.

It is easy to pontificate about parallels with the 1920s, a re-run of Brideshead on the dole money of the unemployed. I feel genuinely uneasy when I sit in a Bond Street boutique and watch women buying £2,000 worth of clothes. Some of it is still Middle East money. A lot of it is true British.

But the resurgence of extravagance is not a sign of some British social sickness. It is a fashion, world-wide phenomenon. The new administration in America has cut a swathe of luxury across the social life of the capital. This new spirit, with Nancy Reagan herself as its nerve centre, was already in evidence in the New York designer shows.

In France, opulence was the keynote of the couture collections, in spite (or perhaps because of) the arrival of the socialist regime.

If you close your mind to the implications of extravagance and accept the glamorous clothes at face value, you see a very pretty picture. The most important fashion feeling is for fabric. The ruffled blouses, cavalier trills, dashing knickerbockers and swinging skirts are reflections of daytime styles. But they are made up for evening in more gold lame than we ever saw in the days of the Silver Screen. Gold lace spotlights black velvet. Brocade jackets, tapestry trousers and rustling taffeta suggest a Restoration royal court.

The clothes on this page are expensive, although you will find the same glittering looks going right down through the price spectrum. The furs are sumptuously real. The jewelry is fake.

I think that I first grasped the significance of Ritz-chic when costume jeweller Corocraft showed me the paste replicas of the real thing that they had reproduced for the first time since the 1950s.

Throw out the worthy wooden bangles. No-one wants to look poor any more.

## What recession?



Above: Glittering silk lamé jacquard-patterned Russian tunic £80.50, yoked and pleated trousers £100, both by Monica Chong from Harrods, Lucienne Phillips Knightsbridge, Whistles shops and Corniche Edinburgh. Monica Chong's braided velvet feathered and bejewelled Russian hat £55.20 at Lucienne Phillips. Paisley lurex shawl worn as sash by Roland Klein from 26 Brook Street W.1. Paste and mirrored cross and matching ring by Andrew Logan. Diamanté drop earrings by Corocraft. Bukhara jacket £2,950 by Grosvenor Canada at Harrods.

Left: Gold-silk lamé ruffled blouse £105, black velvet knickerbockers £78 both by Caroline Charles at 9 Beauchamp Place, Harrods Designer Evening dept., Simpsons, Jermyn Street, Chic, Hampstead, Moselle, Watford, Plaf, Buckhurst Hill, Rebecca, Maidenhead, Angie's, Weyridge, Joan Potting, Birmingham, Young Ideas, Ashbourne, Derby, Welwyn Department Store, Julie Fitzmaurice, Harrogate, Helen Frank, Leeds, Pauline, Newcastle, Monks Dormitory, Coggeshall, Elizabeth Elliot, Aberdeen, Private Lives in Brown Thomas Dublin, Campus shops in Nottingham, Oxford, Glasgow and Edinburgh, Black velvet curved cavalier jacket with gold pattern and gold lace edging £95, by Lumière from Romy, Kensington Church Street, Taylor and Hadow, Beauchamp Place, Squash St., Christopher's Place W.1. Gold leather sash belt £10.95 from Fenwicks of Bond Street. Diamanté drop earrings by Corocraft £2.95 from Selfridges, Harrods, Debenhams and major stores. Glitter tights from Fenwicks. Swashbuckling hooded lynx cape £21,500 by Grosvenor Canada from Harrods.

Below: Black and gold brocade jacket £172, pleated gold lamé strapless dance dress £172, both by Terence Nolder from Harrods Designer Room, Whistles shops, Friends, Dublin, Judith Taylor, West Didsbury, Blanche, Altrincham, I. W. Robertson, Glasgow. Diamanté necklace earrings and bracelet by Corocraft. Gunmetal striped chinchilla jacket £10,500 by Grosvenor Canada at Harrods.

Make-up by Christina Saunders for Estee Lauder.

Hair by Martin at Hair and Friends, 30 Sydney Street, SW3

Photographs by Serge Krouglikoff

## Beauty snippets

■ All that glitters... need not cost a gold bar. Skilful make-up can also give you a ritzy sparkle.

In our pictures, visagiste Christina Saunders used Estee Lauder's shimmering bronze face powder over the basic Polished Performance foundation. The model's eyelids gleam with Gold-lit copper and Gold-lit bronze shadows. Both the Rose Gold streaker on the cheeks and the Crystal Gold lipstick add to the shimmering effect, which reflects the glamour of the clothes.

■ The major beauty houses have all gone on to the gold standard, especially Max Factor whose Shimmering Copper highlighter emphasizes the metallic thread running through their Colorfast collection. Frosted lipsticks and blushers in a range of fashion colours are all packaged in gold to emphasize the point.

The Russia of the Tsars and the glamour of the East are the twin themes of Outdoor Girl's Folklore Fantasy collection, which has iridescent pearly eyeshadows and a shimmering face powder. A quick uplift for the eyes would be a trio of shadows from Boots No 7, matt brown with two shades of gold.

Princess Marcella Borghese, who has the right aristocratic pedigree for the currently fashionable look, has introduced her Rococo range, with opulent shades of plum, royal purple and antique golds and coppers for the eyes. The eyes have it too in Ultima II's Fantasy collection, which uses opalescent tones and vibrant colours with gleaming copper and gold.

Pewter as well as silver, bronze, and copper are the young and exciting looks from Miners, although I am not sure I warm to cheek colour called Beaten Copper. Revlon's Gypsy Gold, as its name suggests, has a gold thread running through the range, with a pretty pale pearl called Moonlit White as one of their eye colours.

■ Jewels also make beauty news for those who prefer gems to gold. Elizabeth Arden's richly-coloured range is divided into diamonds and rubies, with the paler sparkling colours for the eyes contrasting with deep rich reds.

Ivory is teamed with gold for Helena Rubinstein's duo eyeshadow set, which also has a burnished copper and a sparkling highlighter romantically called Dancing Star.

Party pirates seem to be in mind for Mary Quant whose new Red Admiral make-up look includes a studding duo eyeshadow. Blue Tatoo in navy and gold and a lip pencil called Golden Galleon. You can scatter sparkle over your eyes with Miss Selfridge's gold shadow and their body glitter Sweet Glimmer for all over - including the hair.

■ The eyes are the focal point for the new glitter, but as it is now fashionable to blend in all the face make-up, you might be wise to invest this Christmas in a discreet all-over glitter.

Many of the beauty houses describe their sparkling make-ups as giving the effect of a face seen by firelight. And I had always thought that it was by candlelight that I looked my best.



## Smoking, and the battle over the chew cure

Rachel Cullen

Smoking is extremely harmful to those who do it, unpleasant and probably dangerous to those forced to inhale other people's smoke, and costs the country a fortune in the treatment of smoking-related diseases.

Thus far the Government and the medical profession speak with one voice. The introduction, therefore, just over a year ago of a preparation which would help large numbers of cigarette smokers to give up the habit should have been welcomed by all.

The product is the nicotine chewing gum Nicorette. Extensive trials at the Addiction Research Unit of the Institute of Psychiatry since 1975 have given extremely promising results: early this year their research was published in the British Medical Journal and showed that 38 per cent of those who had used Nicorette were still non-smokers a full year later. Now this may not seem a very startling success, but the best results for the only other method to have been examined - counselling and support - hover around the 14 per cent mark. The results of Nicorette in these trials are also impressive for the reason that the gum has helped patients attending a smoking clinic: people who though undeniably with a strong motivation, have tried and failed repeatedly to give up smoking.

Nicorette was granted a product licence by the Committee on the Safety of Medicines in June 1980. This committee exists to examine both the efficacy and the safety of new drugs. Its licensing of Nicorette was felt to be a breakthrough by the team at the Addiction Research Unit, led by Martin Jarvis, since for the first time general practitioners were being given something other than encouragement to offer to addicted smokers trying desperately to give up.

However, only four months later another committee from the Department of Health and Social Services pronounced very differently. The Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances determines whether various toilet preparations and foods may be prescribed on a National Health Service prescription. Their opinion was that Nicorette could not be granted this status, since there was "insufficient evidence that its widespread use would give telling benefits to patients". In effect, despite rigorous clinical evaluations which testify to its usefulness, the gum was lumped together with all the quick remedies which claim on no evidence whatever to help in the anti-smoking battle.

Nicorette thus came to occupy an anomalous position which appears to be unique: not even a "borderline substance" in the eyes of the advisory committee, it yet is tacitly recognized as a drug in that it is not available over the counter but only on prescription. And on any common-sense criteria it must be considered a drug. The active constituent is a potent, even poisonous substance which reduces an addict's craving for nicotine by delivering small measured doses through the lining of the mouth. And though the name is indisputably frivolous and the prescription as chewing gum may seem unduly pleasure-oriented, in fact the formulation is essential, since the nicotine has to be absorbed by the tissues before it is swallowed and inactivated by digestive processes.

Moreover, there is an interesting comparison to be made with official reaction in Eire, where the gum has just been introduced. The Irish equivalent of the NHS is the General Medical Service Scheme, under which some 40 per cent of the population qualify for free prescriptions. Within this system, perhaps because there is no committee to advise on "borderline substances", Nicorette will be prescribed normally as a drug.

This Irish decision, of course, throws into question the status of Nicorette in Britain. Its distributors estimate that about 100,000 smokers this year alone will attempt to give up smoking with the help of Nicorette, and the evidence from the Addiction Research Unit makes it likely that up to 40,000 of them will succeed. Can a product that may, without hyperbole, be expected to save up to 40,000 lives in a single year be justifiably considered by the DHSS as of less medical value than shampoos and suntan creams?

The argument against Nicorette, such as it is, would appear to be more moralistic than scientific. A civil servant from the DHSS pointed out to me, somewhat astutely, that stopping smoking was "only" a matter of willpower and so there was no reason why smokers should be helped by the NHS. This was expressed as personal rather than official opinion, but it is probably widespread.

Now leaving aside the tremendous difficulty experienced by any addict in curing himself, both the morality and the economic sense of this point of view are pretty suspect. Morally, has the

DHSS the right to refuse treatment to any weak-willed and fallible beings trying to put right the results of their own shortcomings? Economically, would the cost of a three-month supply of Nicorette to the health service, £25.20 at the moment, not be a better investment than the £115m a year estimated to be spent on treating smoking-related diseases?

It is an inescapable factor, in considering these figures, that the Government receives nearly £2,600m each year from taxes on tobacco and that the pro-tobacco lobby in parliament is a powerful one. More significant, though, is the lack of political kudos in preventative medicine, especially preventative medicine presented in the apparently inconsequential and unappealing form of chewing gum. The Government may not dare to face the storm it might expect if it allowed prescription of Nicorette on the NHS.

Also difficult to avoid is the issue of whether the puritanical attitude of the DHSS really matters. Surely, it may be argued, people who have been paying nearly £1 a packet for cigarettes can afford the private prescription cost of the gum at about £5.30 for 10 days' supply. Indeed, they have in a sense proved that they can.

All the same, there are serious reasons why Martin Jarvis and his colleagues, working at the sharp end in the struggle against smoking, regard the Government's attitude to Nicorette as tragic. Not only is there an inescapable refusal to support people fighting a real battle against a real crippling addiction which costs the country such vast sums, but even more importantly the staff at the Addiction Research Unit are already finding that GPs do not take seriously a product which is regarded so lightly by the Advisory Committee on Borderline Substances.

Further trials of the gum at the Addiction Research Unit have been completed and will shortly be published: preliminary examination of the data suggests that the success rate may be even more heartening than previously thought. Another study is in progress under the aegis of the British Thoracic Association.

As the amount of positive evidence for the benefit of nicotine chewing gum increases, the Government agencies may decide to brave possible bad publicity and allow its prescription on the NHS. One must hope so. For while willpower alone may be enough for some to give up smoking, a scientifically proven remedy for the rest is certainly not a luxury.

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# I went to prison for espionage ... if only I'd gone to Cambridge!

by Ormond Uren

On Sunday morning my name was brought out of the obscurity in which it had lain for 40 years and connected with the giant wave of interest in wartime spying for Russia. Readers of *The Observer* learnt from an article by Nigel West that I was a "Cambridge educated linguist" who had had "five meetings" with the organizer of the British Communist Party from which secrets of the Special Operations Executive had been passed to Moscow. I felt some relief that the story had come out into the open. But I felt extreme anger at being associated with the Cambridge mafia of spies. I was not at Cambridge. It strikes me all too forcibly that if I had been I might now be in possession of immunity from prosecution or be drinking vodka and Georgian wine in a luxury KGB ghetto in Moscow. Instead, I was tried by court martial, cashiered and sentenced to seven years penal servitude.

The bald facts of my case are as follows: in 1943 I was a 23-year-old officer in the Highland Light Infantry working in London in the Special Operations Executive. I committed a breach of the Official Secrets Act by communicating secret information on two occasions, to the best of my recollection, to Douglas Springhall, who was the National Organizer of the Communist Party of Great Britain. Exactly how and why this happened is not so easy to explain.

Before the war, unlike many people of my age, I was not particularly attracted to communism. Nor was I a communist during my first year or so in the army in 1939-40. My "conversion"—the word could perhaps be

used without inverted commas—took place after I had been commissioned as an officer in 1940. I was extremely depressed about the state of the world and, reading some communist literature while in this state of mind, I "saw" with the force of a blinding illumination that communism was the only solution to the world's problems.

It suddenly became vital to participate in this movement by joining the Communist Party. I had communist friends in Edinburgh whom I saw whenever I was home on leave and I asked them to tell me how I could become a member of the party. As a serving member of the armed forces, open membership of the party was naturally out of the question.

After some time—by now I had been detached from my unit and was working in SOE in London—I was told that the person responsible for organizing people like myself was Springhall, and that a meeting would be arranged.

I no longer remember how the message came to me, but it was to the effect that at a certain time on a certain day I should go to the Pop-Inn restaurant in the Charing Cross Road and that there I should meet Springhall. I have forgotten how I was meant to recognize him, but I did. I told him I was very keen to be considered a member of the party and to work for it. I also told him about the sort of work I was doing and my department.

It is obvious to me now that he was amused by my starry-eyed enthusiasm. However, he told me to put this information in writing and another date was fixed



Ormond Uren (above), the Edinburgh University man who went to prison for passing secrets to the Communists; and (right, from the top), Anthony Blunt, Leo Long and Kim Philby, the Cambridge men who got away.

the only evidence brought against me. It contained essentially what I have said above. For the next four years I sampled a representative selection of His Majesty's Prisons, starting at Wormwood Scrubs and moving via Wakefield, Leeds, Durham and Saughton, in Edinburgh, to Peterhead, in Aberdeenshire. There was a brief stay in Dumfries and I was finally sent to Barlinnie in Glasgow for release in December 1947.

I returned to Edinburgh University and completed the degree in French which I had started in 1936. I also began to find out that an important part of the punishment of imprisonment only begins when you come out.

I now learn from Nigel West's *Observer* article, not only that I was a "Cambridge educated linguist" and that I had "five meetings" with Springhall, but that it was unfortunate that no one in MIS enquired into Uren's Cambridge background. It would have been better

if Mr West had investigated my "Cambridge background" before writing his article.

I am left with the peculiar impression that Mr West is talking about someone else who just happens to have the same name as myself, or a favourite theme in science fiction that he has universe where things happen almost, but not quite, the way they do in this one.

More seriously, I feel it is grossly unfair to blur the difference between my case and that of the "Cambridge group" in this way. I do not wish to justify myself or minimize the importance of what I did. Whatever my motives, I committed a serious offence and can hardly complain at being punished.

The Cambridge spies, men considerably older than myself, worked consistently for Russia over a long period of time and have remained, almost to a man, immune from punish-

ment. Had I been the Cambridge linguist that Mr West refers to I would almost certainly have been in a position to pass on much more important secrets to the Russians and the chances are I would have got away with it.

On a number of counts I can, I suppose, reckon myself fortunate. The paper I passed to Springhall was not, I think, important as information. There can have been little in it that the Russians did not know anyway. It did, though, provide a means of putting pressure on me that would very likely have been used if MIS had not got in first.

And although I have doubts as to the necessity of Mr West's dragging up a 40-year-old case, I can also be grateful to him. Having spent the best part of 40 years thinking that most of the people around did not know about "my past", the likelihood is that now most people will know. It is reassuring to realize that most of them do not give a damn.

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## The City smell will never be the same again

You can smell Billingsgate fish market half a mile away, beyond the financial palaces of King William Street as far as the Bank itself. The smell is as crude and incongruous among the institutional grandeur of the City as that of a faraway would be. The market opens before dawn, and iced lorries have taken the fish away long before the banks open their doors, but the smell hangs around all day. It has done at Billingsgate for at least 700 years.

Not for much longer, though. In January the market moves out to a modern site in the Isle of Dogs. The schemes of planners over the last 60 years will triumph, and the City markets where the money and merchandise of all kinds change hands will no longer be affronted with the smell of wealth on the slab.

Billingsgate at a drizzly 5 am is an immeasurably more animated spectacle than the floor of the Stock Exchange, even in the throes of one of those paralyzing panics. This is so even though most of those taking part in the spectacle are quite dead. There are porters and buyers by the hundred, but fish by the hundred thousand, whole and dismembered, rigid and thawed, open-mouthed round-eyed and wobegone. The imagination grows fishy-eyed at the idea that there will be as many new faces here tomorrow, and many of fish in the sea after that I had not thought death had undone so many.

Ever day 200 tons of fish pass through the draughty market hall: trundled on metal-wheeled trolleys which clatter incessantly over the wet flagstones, with an urgency that bespeaks piecework rates.

Most of the porters are big men with big voices, and they need them in this din. They stamp big enough to boil a lobster in the water, and are given to outlandish and swashbuckling details of dress, over or under the obligatory reeking work coat. Only one or two still wear the traditional armoured black hat, resembling a tin helmet beaten flat and adapted for carrying loaded crates, 20 stone at a time. Old porters could once be recognized by the permanent groove above the eyebrows where the wooden rim pressed down. All this has been made unnecessary by the noisy trolleys though many porters still habitually carry smaller loads overhead, using an assortment of yellow sou'westers, baseball hats and saturated tartan caps to cushion the weight.

With its strange hours and family businesses, Billingsgate is a world of its own, where everyone knows everyone. At the tea-stall out in the rain, where four mugs (and half the counter) are filled with one flourish of an iron scoop big enough to boil a lobster in the water, you need not tell that Ken takes sugar and Ted does not.

There are always a few early tourists around, queasy from the hour and the smell, jumping nervously at every sudden cry of "Mina backish" or nudge of the ankle with a crate of Lowestoft cod fillets. The market is full of notices saying "Members of the trade only served", so visitors hoping to take a whiff of the real and unreal now have the same employer.

We scholars of these matters differ among ourselves as to whether Mackay is also the author of the offensive name by which Lord Macaulay is known in the City. This uncertainty is just as well since Lord Macaulay is the Daily Express Chairman.

Many of the victims are still alive. Dozens of wire baskets as big as dustbins brim over with live crabs. They square up to one another feebly in the pan while being weighed. Tubs of crab or wrinkles are trundled off alive and trundled back shortly after, cooked and deliciously steaming in the cold air. Six-pound Hebridean lobsters 50 years old stretch dainty legs as blue as lapis. Oysters travel first-class in wooden tubs, packed in seaweed to help them feel at home.

There are zinc filing cabinets head high, ever drawer seething with eels. Some slither out and swim off across the wet floor, too slippery to pick up. Eels never give up hope. But nearby two children in cylindrical rubber aprons stand in perpetual streams of blood, one filtering eels at the rate of one every seven seconds, the other keeping pace, chopping them into segments ready for jellifying.

The market can never have been a prime piece of Victorian architecture, the decision by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, to make it a listed building might seem dubious if there were not so many specimens all round of the sterilized offices which would certainly replace it. The site, between Tower Bridge and London Bridge, overlooking the river, is so relentlessly abused by London architecture, is a fine one.

The City was furious at the listing, as the Corporation had intended to finance the move by selling the site to a developer. But it has not lost hope, for it is predicted that the whole building may collapse once the market leaves. Its entire foundation is an immemorial cold-store, a series of dusky catacombs with snowdrifts underfoot and a lace of ice-crystals covering the vaults two or three feet thick, the suspended breath of generations of porters' oaths. Blackened lost fish as rigid as fossils, ostracoderms or lunapids, clutter underfoot, genuinely a century old, for all one can tell.

Once this foundation of ice melts—which may be some years after the archaic ammoniacal freezers are turned off—everything may subside into Thames mud. The way to battle the City, of course, is to retain the permafrost. The glittering vaults are one of the strangest spectacles in London. The market at ground level will no doubt be given over to pricey boutiques, dandies with dulcimers and so on, as Covent Garden has been. Down below, the frost should retain "Twelve by a miracle of rare device, a City pleasure-dome with caves of ice."

George Hill

## On the good side of the bad boys of tennis

John McEnroe, Jimmy Connors, and Ilie Nastase, who are all competing in the Benson and Hedges tournament starting today at Wimbledon, have one remarkable quality in common. At different times each has been the game's best and worst advertisement. As the finest player in the world, playing tennis exceptional in its standard and exciting in its nature, each in turn has been exemplary lighting fires in the sporting imagination. Simultaneously each has caused deep offence with coarse behaviour transgressing the social and sporting conventions.

A game's best players are usually among the self-disciplined both rules and demands. That remains true. Tennis has acquired a distorted image from Nastase, Connors, McEnroe, and a few of the supporting cast. The players are primarily responsible but some blame also lies with court officials who are too chicken-hearted to apply the rules (especially to celebrities) and with the publicity media's preference for bad news.

It was at Wimbledon, a few years ago, that Roy Emerson asked why bad behaviour was given more publicity than good tennis. A short answer is that a reporter would not be doing his job if he took the blinkered view that nothing mattered except technique and tactics and results. Moreover, news is equated with the exceptional: and bad behaviour is exceptional and can therefore be a cheap publicity gimmick.

The era of expanding open competition has also made tennis a full-time job for teenagers who mature as competitors before they mature as people. Champions used to be men and women. Nowadays more and more are emotional adolescents trying to cope with fame and fortune and intense professional stress while still growing up. That explains bad behaviour but does not excuse it.

It also explains why Nastase and Connors—disciplined by marriage, fatherhood, and advancing years—have become much more discreet, even consciously charming, in sharing their impish sense of fun with those around them.



Three to follow at Wimbledon this week: Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe and Ilie Nastase

The younger, comparatively shy McEnroe has an on-court disposition that, except for his temper, is closer to the norm in tennis players. "I find it very hard to relax on court. I was brought up to be serious. If I joked around, did things that are pleasing to the crowd, maybe I wouldn't do as well."

At different times Nastase, Connors, and McEnroe have all become cult figures representing that rebellious attitude towards convention and authority that is almost as natural to the young as a sense of adventure. They have helped to expand the game's popularity beyond the sometimes prim gentility of its middle-class or "country club" traditions. They have also done harm, because bending the rules and offending others advances no cause except that of anarchy.

In all communities social stratification is inevitable. In tennis, which has the additional topographic hazard of a

generation gap, the stratification is most strongly marked at Wimbledon. Is it too much to suggest that the antithesis of Wimbledon is New York and that a mixture of the two must always have explosive possibilities?

Never mind the fact that McEnroe was brought up in an attractive, affluent, Wimbledon-type suburb. Never mind the fact that Connors is a New Yorker only by temperament. On the one hand we have an English club ignoring the principle that although everyone is important, no one is very important. On the other we have a breed ignoring the principle that a man has to shout to attract attention, he is probably not worth it. The cultural roots common to Wimbledon and New York are no more obvious than those between Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair.

McEnroe, Connors, and Nastase are neither saints nor villains. Half that statement is self-evident. As for the other half, it should be more widely known that all three have universally long memories for small kindnesses and are loyal, considerate, and gener-

ous (not merely with money) to those they respect. Many examples could be listed. Let it merely be said that Nastase's impulsive, self-effacing philanthropy has made him lifelong friends in some odd places, and that last December, on a day when McEnroe could have earned a small fortune by playing Bjorn Borg in a two-man South African promotion, he and Connors were playing for nothing to raise funds for a campaign to relieve world hunger.

Such qualities would be taken for granted in most people. They assume a possibly disproportionate importance as unexpected facets of three men who sometimes seem to play the role of "heavy" in rotation. On and off court, the game would be less fun and a less exciting spectacle without them. All three have a gift for comedy. McEnroe's has yet to surface on court, but it will. The man enjoys tennis so much that sooner or later it has to show. He needs enemies but like the rest of us he needs laughter too.

Rex Bellamy

## Diplomatic optimism among the East-West glitter

An unexpectedly optimistic mood about East-West relations emerged yesterday from diplomatic circles in Washington and London following the reception given by the Soviet Embassy in both capitals to mark the 64th anniversary of the October revolution.

Senior diplomats, who were still nursing hangovers from the ocean of vodka provided at the two glittering receptions, told me it is premature to suggest a nuclear holocaust has been avoided. But I am heartened by reports still reaching me.

In London a sumptuous do was attended by Lord Trefgarne, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Foreign Office with special responsibility for East-West relations—as senior a government representative as any the FO has sent in recent years.

Sir Harold Wilson and Michael Foot were also welcomed by Victor Popov, the Soviet ambassador, to the embassy in Kensington Palace Gardens for an evening which press attaché Nikolai Ouspenski described as a reception aimed at improving relations.

Table fare fit for a Tsar marked the reception just a few blocks from the White House in Washington. Soviet ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, dean of the Washington diplomatic corps and an amiable professional who has served some 20 years there, greeted hundreds of guests as they wound their way up a carpeted circular staircase to the main ballroom of the mansion, built by railroad sleeping car baron George Pullman.

The guests swarmed to ante-rooms where tables laden with

caviar were constantly restocked. Both receptions were marked, however, by the absence of the Swedish ambassador following the recent Soviet submarine incident. Mr Per Lind, the London ambassador, stayed away after the Swedish government notified his missions abroad to boycott the receptions, and Count Wilhelm Wachtmeister, his opposite number in Washington, was said to have played indoor tennis during the celebration.

## Suez seven

A very select band of MPs and former MPs is meeting for dinner tomorrow evening to mark an anniversary that most of us might prefer to forget—the 25th anniversary of the Suez debacle.

Michael Brotherton, the Tory MP for Louth, has invited the seven conservative MPs who resigned the party whip as a protest against the British withdrawal to Locketts Restaurant in Westminster.

The "magnificent seven" as he describes them, include the Rt Hon The Earl of Lauderdale, Rt Hon Sir Angus Maude MP, Sir Victor Ralke, Sir John Biggs-Davison MP, Anthony Fell MP, Victor Monagu and Paul Williams.

That old English folk song *There's a Hole in My Bucket*—always satiric contemporary interpretation—was given a new lease of life yesterday on the boards of the Players' Theatre, in Villiers Street, London by former parliamentary under-secretary of State for Industry, Michael Marshall.

The Conservative M.P. for Arundel cited a new version of

## THE TIMES DIARY

What's the going price for a Hitler diary? Author and journalist Peter Johnson tells me it's £70, or thereabouts. He knows how Hitler can fetch, too—about £50. But for that, they have both got to be in mint condition.

Hitler and the idiot were two saps in the million-dollar toy soldier collection which Forbes, the leading American business magazine, houses as a public museum in a gleaming white palace at Tangier. It is the world's biggest private army—the 70,000 pieces include Eisenstein, Napoleon and the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh—and it is owned by Malcolm Forbes, the American millionaire.

Mr Johnson and his wife Anne, are curators of the collection. He has just written a book about it—

Toy Armies (Batsford, £9.95p). The missing Führer, he says, has a private collection in the hills of Maine. The idiot proved harder to find. Ironically, he was eventually found lurking at the bottom of a box at the Johnsons' home, a job lot assortment of farm animals and bucolic figures, snapped up at a country auction.

It was, apparently, thanks to King George V the idiot entered Britain's toy soldier catalogue in the 1920s. The monarch was visiting a vast farm and village scene at a British industries fair. "But where's the idiot?", he wanted to know. "No English village is complete without him."

Soon afterwards, straw-chewing idiots came pouring out of the model-making factories. But, after a decade, production stopped. The gnomish chap was thought to be incompatible with good taste.

Michael Flanders and Donald Swann's classic variation on a theme.

In 1953, you may recall, their original rendering ran: "There's a hole in my budget, dear Winston, dear Winston. There's a hole in my budget, dear Rab (as in Butler—my italics), dear Rab, dear Rab. Then mend it dear Rab, etc."

Yesterday Marshall declaimed his up-to-the-minute version of the song—substituting Margaret, as in Thatcher, and Geoffrey, as in Howe, for Winston and Rab—at a special performance of dramatic and comic monologues to launch his new book, *The Book of Comic and Dramatic Mono-*



logues, published this week by Elm Tree Books.

Marshall, who was very much brought up in the Victorian tradition which required every member of the family to be able to participate in an evening's home entertainment by playing a musical instrument or singing a song, used to do his bit by contributing the odd monologue.

Having already compiled two books of Stanley Holloway's monologues his latest venture has been to collect more than 250 monologues dating from the turn of the century to the present day and featuring the work of such masters as Arthur Askey, Joyce Grenfell and Cyril Fletcher.

Over the years the identity of

taken many forms over the years. The author of Sir Jonah Junor, the *Private Eye* version of Sir John Junor's *Sunday Express* column, which is almost as masterly a parody as the original.

Mackay, aged 39, lightly heckled Sir Junor at the lunchbox to launch Sir John's collected works. "Don't listen to Sir Jonah Junor over there," Sir John advised us guests. "Over here is the real Mackay," he added, pointing to a man in a real and unreal now have the same employer.

We scholars of these matters differ among ourselves as to whether Mackay is also the author of the offensive name by which Lord Macaulay is known in the City. This uncertainty is just as well since Lord Macaulay is the Daily Express Chairman.

## Shuffling Lynn

The long-awaited return to the London stage of former top dramatic ballerina Lynn Seymour, who forsook the Royal Ballet in January to form a company devoted to presenting dance with rock music, will raise a few eyebrows in the ballet world.

She will be appearing with Olympic figure skating champion Robin Cousins in a soft shoe shuffle at Riverside Studios in a charity concert with Susannah York, Fenella Fielding, Rula Lenska and Frances de la Tour aimed at raising cash for the threatened studios.

Balletomanes have grown accustomed to Miss Seymour's eccentricities—her appointment as artistic director of the Bavarian State Opera Ballet was less than a successful and her performance as a neurotic housewife in a gala at the London Palladium last November inspired some dreadful

reviews—but I still fear for her Riverside performance. Miss Seymour (CBE 1976), who is organising the event said yesterday: "I don't see why anyone should be perturbed. Robin is removing his blades. It should be marvelous fun."

Meanwhile Miss Seymour, 42, whose defection from the Royal Ballet was regarded as misguided, admits she is having difficulty finding her rock dance company. "There have been money problems," she said. "We've been taking of about £100,000. But I'm not giving up. Life is full of ups and downs."



Lynn Seymour

## Not amused

The *Sunday Telegraph* may expect to hear from solicitors representing Sir Dick White, former head of the security services. He tells me from his home in Arundel that he is not amused by the ST's report of his death. Nor does he relish its report last Sunday that he spied for the Germans during the last war. Sir Dick said: "It's scandalous, but I hope the matter will be settled in an orderly fashion."

Michael Horsnell





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## MR FOOT'S LEADERSHIP

The serious question concerning Mr Michael Foot today, the anniversary of his election as leader of the Labour Party, is not a matter of whether at the Cenotaph he looked like an out of work navvy, as cruelly suggested by one of his backbenchers, but whether he begins to look like an ex-Party leader. Making every allowance for the horrendous difficulties which he inherited, Mr Foot's record so far is disappointing to his supporters and his prospects are bleak. While the Prime Minister and her Government are less popular than the electorate than any Cabinet predecessors in polling history, Mr Foot and Her Majesty's Opposition are totally failing to capitalize on this opportunity; he is personally even less popular than Mrs. Thatcher.

During his brief reign — though with origins and causes long before it — the Labour Party has begun to disintegrate electorally and internally. So recently a mighty political force, having won four in the last six general elections and governed Britain for eleven of the past seventeen years, it now trails far behind the Alliance, and in some polls behind the Conservatives. The flow of defections from Labour shows no sign of diminishing; were the Left to triumph at next year's conference this flow would become a flood. Throughout this calamitous year, from his personal humiliation at the Wembley Conference through the formation of the SDP to his party's humiliation last month at Croydon, Mr Foot has never given any indication that he grasped the true nature of the crisis facing him and the Labour Party. He seems to believe that a leadership stance and rhetoric some what to the left of centre — a weak mixture of George Lansbury and early Harold Wilson — is sufficient to hold the Party together. This alone can explain why he recently used his casting vote to defend the Left's control of the key committees covering home policy and party organization; why he is positively promoting Mr Benn's membership of the shadow Cabinet; and why he has been so reluctant to fight extremist organizations such as the Militant Tendency which operate independently

within and against the official party organization. Presented as a strategy for unifying the whole party, it is in fact mere appeasement of the left.

Mr Foot seems rooted in his own experience of twenty years ago, when he led a minority left wing which was firmly within the democratic socialist mainstream of Labour ideals. Now the Left is sectarian, intolerant, anti-parliamentary. It would prefer to drive out the moderates in order to control a smaller Marxist party than to share power in a bigger broad church party. It is well advanced in securing that control. Changes in the rules for electing the leadership and for re-selecting MPs have shifted power to Party activists on the left. These latter number no more than 50,000 over the country as a whole and do not pretend to represent the views of millions of moderate Labour voters, but they have been able to take over the party's organization because it is in fact rotten. Its individual membership has declined precipitately to barely a quarter of a million — the worst ratio of members to voters in any major party in western Europe. Its network of full-time agents has withered to only a few dozen — ironically little more than the full-time network run by the Militant Tendency. Indeed the stage has almost been reached when it is unfair to imply that the various sects of the far left are insidiously infiltrating the Labour Party; they are now openly joining it as their natural and convivial base of operations. Moderate MPs are being squeezed out or leave the party just before they get the message of intimidation which was the true purpose of re-selection and will, sadly, play the left wing game to keep their place at Westminster. Thus the PLP is itself slipping leftwards and the forces which from enthusiasm or cynical calculation support Mr Benn renew their advance after temporary setback at the Brighton conference.

Mr Foot, presiding over this depressing state of affairs, rather like a pilot on the flight deck of his plane who has not been told that a hijack is taking place. He should pause a while from marching and declaiming against the sins of

the Prime Minister to take note that the most immediate threat comes in fact from his enemies to the left. They may well destroy his hopes of winning the next election. If he does win with them in control, he will be forced to govern — assuming, unlike in the GLC, they condescend to allow him to continue as Leader — on principles and with priorities far removed from those which have guided his own distinguished political life.

Mr Foot is not young at 68 and if he does not feel the urgency or determination to rescue his party and his reputation, he should hand over to another. Mr Hattersley, Mr Healey, Mr Shore and Mr Varley (in alphabetical order) have each shown the necessary courage. If he is prepared to fight, he has perhaps one more year, until the next conference, at the latest, in which to roll back the tide of extremism. He should launch and vigorously pursue a full enquiry into the activities of the Militant Tendency. Prior to the conclusions of that inquiry he should oppose the endorsement as a parliamentary candidate of Mr Patrick Wall or anyone else from that or similar organizations. He should campaign for greater participation by the membership in the affairs of their constituency parties, including the operation of the principle of one man one vote to which Mr Healey has become a belated supporter. He should openly join with those in the party and especially in the trade unions who are working to secure a moderate majority on the National Executive Committee. He should aggressively defend the Parliamentary Party from all its detractors on the left. He should announce now his total support for Mr Denis Healey as deputy leader and make it clear that if Mr Benn successfully contests for this post next year he will himself resign.

It may be tactless in view of past history to ask Mr Foot to emulate Mr Gaitskill twenty years ago by fighting and fighting again to save the party which he and many British citizens love, or once loved. But it is not too much to suggest that he avoids the role and mantle of Mr Kerensky.

## THE TWO BELGIUMS

The Belgium election has served to demonstrate the difficulties the country faces, but done little to solve them. Once again the spotlight is on the differences between those who speak Dutch and those who speak French, aggravated this time by the effects of the recession. So whatever government is eventually formed and the process could take a long time, it will have a dual task. It will have not only to take measures to deal with the country's economic troubles, but to try to do so in a way which will not drive the two parts of the country further apart. It was a task which the previous government was unable to accomplish, and it is hard to be confident that its successor will be able to do better.

Belgium's linguistic differences have always been intertwined with questions of economic development. In the last century the French-speaking Walloons in the south of the country were dominant both economically and politically. But since the Second World War their coal-mines and steel mills have been in decline, and

the new industries, many of them foreign-based, have been set up in Dutch-speaking Flanders in the north. Over the past year or two even these new industries have suffered from the harsh economic climate, adding to an already high level of unemployment. And at a time of financial stringency, each side tends to be resentful of the other on the grounds that it is getting more than its fair share from the central government. The last government fell because the Social Christian Party, whose main strength is in Flanders, would not agree to a demand from the Socialists, whose main strength is in Wallonia, for more aid for the steel industry.

In Sunday's election the Liberals did best of the three main parties, winning seats both north and south of the language line. They have proposed a tough "austerity" approach to public expenditure. They still have fewer seats, however, than either of the other two, and there would be difficulties about a coalition with either of them. An alliance with the Social

Christians would be the more logical politically, but that would put the Socialists in opposition, and they would be likely to give their resistance to government policies a specifically Walloon twist by dwelling on resentment of the Flemish and pressing for greater Walloon autonomy. The French-speaking wing of the Socialist Party has already moved in that direction, and was rewarded by an increase of seats.

In recent years, when times were better than they are now, Belgium has prospered in spite of the instability of its governments. Many Belgians are contemptuous of their politicians and try to conduct their affairs with as little reference as possible to them. There has even been some slow progress on the linguistic issue, with the setting up of regional councils for Flanders and the French-speaking areas which will have funds of their own to spend. But now hard economic decisions do need to be taken, and they are made more difficult by the cross-currents of animosity between the two language groups.

## FIRST AND SECOND CLASS SPIES

For the third time in less than two years, Mrs Thatcher has been obliged to make a statement to the Commons about persons named by the press as having been linked with pro-Russian espionage activities during the war and the immediate post-war period. On all three occasions she has in comparison to some of her predecessors, appeared to have provided frank answers, although the suspicion can never totally be erased that the security authorities themselves have kept information back, even from the Prime Minister. In the case of Sir Roger Hollis, her statement was necessary to exonerate him from complicity in espionage after he had been revealed as a suspect. Mr Blunt and Mr Long, in contrast, had confessed to their treasonable acts and Mrs Thatcher's function was that of making public what had been known to a select few for many years.

For all Mrs Thatcher's candour, there are still unanswered questions, unallayed

suspicions, and continuing areas of disquiet. The Prime Minister refused yesterday to comment on other names that have been mentioned in the press over the last few days. No doubt further names will become public in due course. Every new development opens up further leads, and results in new revelations. It is a process that can continue indefinitely.

It is time for the government to consider providing a fuller explanation of the relevant events than it has hitherto done. Piecemeal explanations, however frank, lack a context. Without a context the public cannot judge the scale of penetration of the intelligence services in that period, or get a clear idea of the form it took, or be confident that it is all in the past. It can hardly be thought that disclosing further details of this espionage network then would endanger national security today. This course would not necessarily damp down speculation and journal-

istic investigation; it might well have the opposite effect, but the speculation could at least be set against a less uncertain background.

One area of disquiet which cannot be remedied, though it should be, explained, is the unfortunate fact that the more heinous the spying, the less likely the prosecution. Mr Blunt, the spy-master, whose treachery to Britain was of the most extreme form, received immunity from prosecution. Mr Long did not receive formal immunity, but was led to understand that he would not be prosecuted if he confessed. Mimmows, like Mr Uren, who tells his story on the opposite page, were sent to prison. In 1968, an aircraft technician, Douglas Britten, was sentenced to 21 years imprisonment for passing on relatively unimportant and almost certainly already known technical information to the Russians. Mr Long's loss of his pension and Mr Blunt's loss of his knighthood seem, by comparison, to offend natural justice.

## 'Pax Sovietica' an illusion?

From Professor Adam B. Ulam  
Sir, Professor Lipson, in his letter printed in your columns on October 28, suggests that the only two practical alternatives facing Britain (and presumably the rest of the West) are Soviet domination and a nuclear war. It is incredible that anyone conversant with the history of the last 36 years should fail to realize that in a communist-dominated world the likelihood of war would be immensely increased, and that Pax Sovietica is a fatal delusion.

Have chances of war between the USSR and China increased or decreased as a consequence of the latter finding itself under communist rule? It is mainly the presence and power of the United States which has kept the antagonism between the two communist states from erupting into an actual, and probably nuclear, war. "More quickly dead if red" is a much more realistic prospect than "Better red than dead". Yours faithfully, ADAM B. ULAM, Gurney Professor of History and Political Science, Harvard University Russian Research Center, Archibald Cary Coolidge Hall, 1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts, November 4.

## Russian Jews

From Mr Josef Mendelovich  
Sir, The October 28 edition of The Times contains an article, with photograph, giving the reasons for my journey to Britain. Unfortunately, my words were so shortened as to give a wrong impression of the content of my journey. I came here from Israel not only to fight for my close friends, Feodorov and Morzenko, who were with me in the 1970 underground struggle, but also languishing in a Russian concentration camp, but primarily, as I said in my interview, because Russian Jews are in a very serious situation, the like of which has not been known since my friends and I were put on trial 11 years ago.

The exit of Jews from Soviet Russia has virtually ceased. Nine Jewish activists have been arrested in recent months and sent to camps, this being the largest number in a short period since our exit from the USSR in 1970. In addition, the Jewish seminars have been stopped and the teaching of Hebrew prevented, with the teachers threatened with severe punishment.

May I add that in 1970 our struggle was not to leave Soviet Russia as the article mentioned in the article, but rather to leave in order to go to Israel? I am, yours faithfully, JOSEF MENDELLOVICH, c/o 741 High Road, Finchley N12, October 29.

## Exported plutonium

From Mr F. J. L. Bindon  
Sir, I assume your correspondent R. V. Hesketh (October 30) is expressing personal views on this subject, because they cannot be those of the Central Electricity Generating Board. Under succeeding electricity Acts, the generating board's sole task is to provide bulk supplies of electricity safely, with security and at the most economical price. The CEBG cannot and must not expound views of any political nature. Thus what happens to the irradiated fuel discharged from the commercial reactors is the concern of British Nuclear Fuels Ltd and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority at Sellafield under Government directive.

I, too, have been a member of the UK commercial nuclear programme since its inception and I have no single doubt that my responsibility is solely to assist as an employee in the generation of electricity, as decreed under the Act.

Wyke, one of the power stations mentioned, will shortly have generated 50,000 million units. What those units have been used for is not the concern of the electric supply industry. We do not differentiate between supplies for the home or for the factory which may be producing military equipment. Yours faithfully, F. JOHN L. BINDON, Llecyn Braf, Bron-y-Felin, Llandefan, Isle of Anglesey, Gwynedd.

## Malaysian displeasure

From Mr Algy Cluff  
Sir, The Malaysian Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir (report, October 3), has elected to take offence at what he perceives to be a deliberate and political act on the part of the London Stock Exchange authorities to frustrate his Government's "dawn raids" on companies whose shares are registered in the United Kingdom but whose assets are in Malaysia. His intention being to re-assert those assets to Malaysia. Dr Mahathir has, I believe, misunderstood the Stock Exchange authorities' attitude, which was simply designed to provide protection to the small investor, be he Malaysian or British.

Regardless, however, of whether Dr Mahathir's indignation is justified, the fact is that he is upset. In fact he was upset anyway, largely on account of the British Government's parsimonious policy regarding overseas student grants. Malaysia has traditionally sent 20,000 students a year to Britain and our new education policy is seen to be unfriendly, mean and discriminatory. In addition our High Commissioner, Mr Bentley, scarcely endeared himself to the Prime Minister in a statement he made

## Child death case and moral imperatives

From the Headmaster of Prior Park College

Sir, Anyone with the least familiarity with the distinguished thinkers of our time would hardly be surprised by Professor Ayer's essay in the article (November 6) of the difficulty in providing a logical basis for moral imperatives. Indeed, in citing Russell, he might have gone on to repeat Russell's admission that, in the last resort, it was impossible to prove logically that there was any compelling reason for men to behave well at all.

Nor did he refer to some of the less pleasing consequences of leaving men and women entirely free to make up their minds. This, for a man whose lifetime includes the atrocities of Hitler and Stalin and the regimes of President Amin and the Khmer Rouge, not to mention the scandal of our contemporary arms race, is little surprising. These disasters or crimes were not the work of robots but of fellow humans. They were commissioned by men who, like parents or doctors, had the fate of others in their hands.

If there are to be no overriding moral considerations for parents concerned by the problems of parenthood, does it follow that there are likewise no moral restraints on the state when it decides whether it wishes to feed its hungry or support its old? If self-interest is indeed the only criterion then the weak and the deprived had better look out.

That said, I would accept his comment that "one still has to make the independent judgment that what the religious authority in the case enjoins is right". However the implication that this is not a view shared by, say, Catholics is somewhat puzzling. It is after all well over a century since Newman successfully asserted his belief in the ultimate primacy of conscience, nor would any Catholic involved in today's affairs deny that men have sometimes to choose between evils, a point specifically advanced by Archbishop Hurley of Cape Town and exemplified by Count Stauffenberg's leadership of the 1944 officers' bomb plot.

What frightens me is that, in proportion as today's parents indulge in their benign if rather shallow scepticism, their children grow up devoid of any feeling of obligation whatever. The most common teenage mood is a jocular, unembarrassed profession of naked self-interest. I fear that much of the teenage involvement in the nuclear disarmament movement stems less from altruism than from their terror of the holocaust. We seem indeed to be entering a Hobbesian age in which the only cement left for society is the fear of violent death.

I do not know what guidance is to be provided for the next generation by contemporary philosophy and often wonder whether the main achievement of Professor Ayer is to have made philosophy irrelevant to the serious issues of mankind, but all Christians should recognize the vital importance of teaching moral values to the young of today, whatever the philosophers say. It would be sad if the acquittal of Dr Arthur, at which I was

myself relieved, led only to the further erosion of any concern to establish principles governing the fate of fellow humanity.

Yours faithfully, P. F. TOBIN, Headmaster, Prior Park College, Bath, Avon, November 6.

## From Miss Betty Collins

Sir, Having spent several years nursing in a hospital for severely mentally and physically handicapped children I have been appalled at the way in which an eminent doctor such as Dr Leonard Arthur has been treated. I agree with Mr A. J. Ayer's article (November 6) that a doctor who acts in certain circumstances from purely humane motives ought not to be morally or legally condemned.

I think all the "condemners" should spend some time in a hospital, as I have, watching poor little children grotesquely handicapped, most of whom have been rejected by their parents and who would spend each and every day in pain were they not in a constantly drugged stupor, but who are immobile, incontinent, and, in fact, living vegetables; the only bright spot in their day being when friendly nurses offer them some modicum of affection.

Only when one has had this moving experience can one have the right to any sort of judgment of Dr Arthur's situation.

Yours faithfully, BETTY COLLINS, Cobden, Common Road, Ighiteam, Sevenoaks, Kent.

## From Mr and Mrs Ivan Knops

Sir, As the parents of a 21-year-old mongol son we wish to make comment on the recent case of the doctor acquitted of the attempted killing of a three-day-old mongol baby.

The verdict in this case leaves the way open to the killing of other mongol babies. After the first shock, our son, the fourth after three perfectly healthy normal children, has been a joy and inspiration to us. He requires care and protection but he also inspires love and compassion in those who know him. This is common to most mongol children.

The parents of the baby in the case did not have time to adjust to the fact that their son was handicapped and maybe had no idea that such a child can be a joy and a blessing. Even if they had nevertheless rejected him he had the right to his life, however limited.

Life is God-given and a mongol suffers very little if treated with dignity and compassion and can add to the joy of life in those around him.

Our son has contributed to the experience of love and tolerance in our family; we would not be without him for anything. We earnestly hope that those parents who have a mongol child will not be influenced by the outcome of this widely publicized case. Yours sincerely, IVAN KNOPS, K. J. KNOPS, Woodlands, Warren Row, Wargrave, Berkshire.

## Crimean honours

From Mr Alan Hankinson  
Sir, Twice in the past fortnight your paper has repeated the canard that it was the dispatches of William Howard Russell that induced Florence Nightingale to go to Scutari to bring order to the British military hospital. It was not.

Thomas Chenery, a later editor of The Times, was your man in Constantinople in 1854 and it was his reports on conditions at Scutari which brought about the reforms there. Russell was on the

other side of the Black Sea at the time, describing the incompetence of the British army commanders on campaign.

Russell was too great a journalist to need credit which is not rightly his, and too honest a man to want it.

Fortunately, the record is set straight in a new biography of Russell, written by me, which will be published next year. Yours sincerely, ALAN HANKINSON, 104 Melbourn, Bassenthwaite, Keswick, Cumbria, November 4.

## East Timor

From the Indonesian Charge d'Affaires (a.i.)

Sir, Lord Avebury in his letter (November 3) dramatises a so-called "new offensive" in East Timor as if this were a fact. There is no truth whatsoever in his description of a quite normal military exercise carried out as a matter of routine.

Indonesia is a large country and it has to undertake military exercises to be ready to defend itself. Manoeuvres such as are carried out in some countries, in so happens that, this year, Timor was chosen as the area in which the annual manoeuvres were staged.

There is no true ground for Lord Avebury's statement that

"virtually the entire surviving male population is being conscripted in an operation aimed at forcing all resistance fighters into the open". By using the emotive words "resistance fighters" he is trying to suggest that there is an opposition force. Nonsense — the people of East Timor are trying to work together to develop the country.

A second implication is that Indonesian troops are incapable of carrying out their own military operation. If this were really the case then Indonesia would have collapsed during the days in which it had to struggle for its independence.

Yours sincerely, AGUS TARMIZI, Indonesian Embassy, 38 Grosvenor Square, W1.

## Swedish decision on submarine

From Judith Lady Listowel

Sir, What an opportunity the Swedish Government has missed by its handling of the Soviet submarine affair.

The man who in the second half of 1944 saved the lives of close on 100,000 Jews in Hungary, Raoul Wallenberg, has been held by the Russians in various prisons and camps for 37 years and 10 months. Although the Russians have consistently maintained that Wallenberg died in Lefortovo prison in 1947, a large number of fellow prisoners (who have been allowed to leave the Soviet Union) have met him and talked to him since 1945. Most recently a reliable source reported that Wallenberg was seen, alive, in a Soviet Gulag last September.

The Swedish Government should have treated the Russian submarine captain as the Russians treated Gary Powers when this American pilot was caught spying over Russia — ie, had him arrested, tried and sentenced to long imprisonment. Then it should have told Mr Brezhnev (who was official commissar of Marshal Tolbukhin's army in 1944-45, and may well have been responsible for Wallenberg's arrest in the first place) "You can have your submarine captain back and we will cancel his sentence, if you hand back to us Raoul Wallenberg." The Russians would have released Wallenberg.

Instead, the Swedish Foreign Minister, when it was suggested that he should exchange the Soviet submarine captain for Wallenberg, replied: "We do not react to one violation of the law by another violation." This noble-sounding phrase has made it quite certain that Raoul Wallenberg will never be released. Yours, etc, JUDITH LISTOWEL, 9 Halsey Street, SW3, November 6.

## Student grants anomaly

From Mr Denis Henry

Sir, An anomaly exists in the assessment of further education awards by local authorities which may cause serious and unforeseen hardship to parents who have, or are about to have, children at universities.

Awards relate to maintenance for students during the academic year, a year beginning in October. The amount of an award in relation to the parental contribution is calculated on parental income for the financial year, ie the year beginning six months earlier. In April, Parents who retire or are made redundant at any point between April and October will suffer a drop in income, maybe considerable, which will not be reflected in the assessment for October.

To avoid hardship the year for assessment of parents should surely correspond with the academic year for which the assessment is made.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, DENIS HENRY, 9 White Road, Blackburn, Lancashire.

## Those lost days

From Mr William More

Sir, Like everyone who wants to see a prosperous Britain, I was delighted to read that only 3.2 million days were lost through strikes in the first nine months of this year.

Can I draw your attention to the other record-breaking achievement which seemed to miss the headlines? In the first nine months of this year at least 550 million working days were lost through unemployment.

Yours faithfully, WILLIAM S. MORE, Project Director, Job Change Project, Birmingham Settlement, 318 Sumner Lane, Newtown, Birmingham.

## Mandarin English

From Professor Michael de Havilland

Sir, Dr Burchfield (report, October 22) takes us to task over our standards of English and, so far, as I am concerned, as a specialist in linguistics, how right he is when it comes to the department of spoken English.

In China, where I have spent over two years lecturing to teachers and students, many speaking much better English than a great many people in this country, I recorded some 500 Chinese voices speaking English but the gem of this collection is the voice of a five-year-old girl who, in a 60-second, on-the-spot, and totally unrehearsed conversation, speaks with what I can only describe as impeccable BBC English. She was taught by grandparents.

So often Chinese students, who are all deeply concerned with the battle of pronunciation, would ask why it was that they were unable at times to understand what some of their English teachers were saying! And they would remind me that their own leaders had exhorted them to set aside dialects and learn Mandarin Chinese, which is spoken by the Pekinese and has been adopted as standard Chinese everywhere, and then ask: "Why don't you learn Mandarin English in your country?"

At the rate they are going (up to 14 hours a day, six days a week), the Chinese will, in less than 20 years, speak better English than a good half of the people in this country and all the people in the rest of the world. Unquestionably. Very truly yours, MICHAEL DE HAVILLAND, Professor in Linguistics, Shanghai Maritime Transportation University, 12 St Mary's Road, Eastbourne, October 29.







# University of Strathclyde

The West of Scotland, like the English Midlands, was a cradle of Britain's industrial revolution. Great manufacturing industries have been associated with great export and import business and it was the wealth created by these enterprises that sustained not only the British Empire but much of Britain's cultural heritage. Notwithstanding that the great city of Glasgow no longer supplies the ships, the railway locomotives, the coal and the steel to the four corners of the earth, it remains a centre of engineering excellence, based on the native skills of Scottish craftsmen.

At every level these skills have been encouraged by Glasgow's two universities. Both have continued to support strong departments of science, applied science, technology and engineering; both have extended their compass to include micro-electronics and microbiology and their attendant developments of micro-computers and biotechnology. Scotland now contains the greatest density of micro-electronic activities outside Silicon Valley.

All Scots boys and girls are potentially "lads o' pairs", young people who, from the humblest of origins, work hard and make good. It was in line with this tradition that in the latter half of the 18th century John Anderson, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Glasgow, publicly deplored the remoteness of existing universities from the real world of the burgeoning industrial revolution; he vigorously asserted his belief that universities should teach men "the principles of the arts they practise".

Strathclyde University was the fruit of such

beliefs. Its foundation in 1796 as Anderson's University was rapidly followed by the foundation of the Mechanics Institute by the University's professor of medicine, George Birkbeck. Anderson's University became first the Royal College of Science and Technology and then the University of Strathclyde. Such changes in name and status did nothing to interrupt the constant tradition of encouraging the studies of the useful arts and sciences, especially by those who for one reason or another failed or declined to follow a more orthodox university career. Its crest bears the inscription *mente et manu*, and its full-time and part-time courses have always conformed with the Scottish egalitarian tradition. David Livingstone, Lord Keith and John Logie Baird are among its most distinguished alumni.

The application of scientific knowledge now extends to the social sciences. The Scottish Business School derives many of its courses from Strathclyde. Departments of economics, accountancy, marketing, administration and industrial relations are woven into the school of business and administration, and their expertise is grafted on to engineers and other technologists who are required to marry considerations of what can be made with what can be sold.

Both Glasgow University and Strathclyde take their students predominantly from the West of Scotland. Both are local universities, serving their local community, and both have peopled the old Commonwealth and elsewhere with skilled graduates of every kind. Their present role is to sustain the prosperity of Scotland and its manufacturing industry. Long may that be so.

Lord Todd of Trumpington, Chancellor



Lord Todd confers a degree at last month's graduation ceremony in Glasgow City Hall

## The Doctor's new approach

by Willis Pickard

Dr Graham Hills, still in his first year as principal of Strathclyde University, is increasingly propounding radical ideas which may dismay some of his more conservative colleagues among the principals of the other seven Scottish universities.

He is against the higher education establishment which he sees entrenched in Oxford, Cambridge and Whitehall. It places too much emphasis on erudition at the expense of practical competence, and that leads to the kind of academic complacency which has helped to land universities in their present crisis.

Dr Hills is a self-admitted "disloyalist" when it comes to academic nostrums. The long traditions of liberal education dating back to Victorian times are not for him. In the mould of his new university and of the city whose industrial innovation gave it its original purpose, he is a utilitarian, almost a disciple of Samuel Smiles. Staff and students at Strathclyde will have to work for their success.

Only half-jocularly he gives his reason for applying for the Strathclyde job and so leaving Southampton University, where he had held a chair in chemistry since 1962, as wanting to get further away from the enemy, that is, the establishment. Scotland and Glasgow in particular he finds refreshing: the classlessness for one thing, and the tradition of a broad education instead of the premature specialisation which the English A levels impose and which undergratuate courses reinforce. Strathclyde students may be a rough and ready bunch, and the fact that most of them come from the immediate area of Strathclyde and treat the university as a 9 am to 5 pm existence, depresses university life beyond the classroom, but the challenge

of straight speaking and of a vocational commitment obviously appeal to the new principal.

He would like to encourage the tradition of a general three-year degree which has been largely overlain in Scottish universities by the specialisation of the honours year, with the result that the "ordinary" degree has come to be second-best. So he is anxious to redraw courses, especially in science and technology, so as to restore status to the ordinary BSc degree.

That ties in with Dr Hill's view that universities are not for high-fliers alone. Individual excellence is conventionally preached as the goal of the university-educated man. But what about the individual competence, asks the principal? This country has not lacked scientists and engineers of creative imagination. Our industry suffers from a shortage of high-quality technicians, and that is what he believes the science and engineering faculties at Strathclyde should produce.

He repeats a story told him by a recent Strathclyde graduate who was working on a drilling ship in the Gulf, when all activity had to be suspended because of a failure in the ventilation system. From the bowels of the vessel was brought up a young graduate in ventilation engineering who was told that this was his finest hour; he could repair the fault and save the company thousands of pounds of lost working time. In despair the young man has to admit that he knew the theory but had never actually worked on a ventilation system.

At research level Dr Hill's practical approach continues. There is, he believes, no incentive for young researchers with ideas to do more than go off and have another idea. There is a lack of follow-through, and he

would encourage collaborative research where the creativity of one member of a group was balanced by the practicality of another. Research ideas must be developed, and it would be good for scientists to have to sell their ideas in the market place in order to attract their research money.

Strathclyde must play to its strengths, according to the principal. No university should nowadays try to play the whole field, and since the consequence is specialising, Strathclyde must go back to its traditional preoccupations of science and engineering, supported nowadays by other practical disciplines such as business studies and economics. These were the areas concentrated upon by the former Royal College of Science and Technology from which the university was born, and Strathclyde can make its mark in the world of education and industry by showing off the three or four departments which can be its flagships.

Since such departments would all be in science and engineering, what of the substantial component of arts and social sciences now in the university? Dr Hills accepts their role provided it, too, is utilitarian. English, for example, is as much a tool of the engineer as of an arts specialist. It has an important place in a science-based institution, and indeed Dr Hills was instrumental in persuading his colleagues to invite the controversial Cambridge "structuralist" Colin MacCabe, to the chair of English. MacCabe's discontent with the traditional English curriculum at Cambridge and his desire to innovate at Strathclyde coincide with the principal's own academic views.

Despite his ardent utilitarianism, Dr Hills is a staunch supporter of academic freedom. Indeed, he

sees his practical approach as specifically aimed at the economic development of Scotland. The University of Strathclyde, he believes, should be a centre of excellence in the Department of Education and Science, a centre of research and development, a centre of information and direct links with industry.

Dr Hills' approach is a new way of looking at the university, a challenge to the established order, although at the moment it is only a part of the university's future. It is to be implemented in the next 12 months, and it is hoped that it will be a success.

In seeking to turn a time when the university is confronted by both lucky and unlucky stars, the Government is forcing even universities to look at their own long-established and secure curriculum. The Government is to protect jobs and to protect innovation, and to establish a new kind of university which is not just a place of learning but a place of work.

The author is editor of the Times Educational Supplement in Scotland.

## Putting Scottish science in the park

The old university buildings lie in the heart of Glasgow close to George Square. They are forbidding inside, with white tiled corridors and a warren of Victorian rooms, many of them ingeniously converted into modern "suites" that house the latest in scientific equipment. Broad stone steps have been followed by the footfall of several generations of young engineers and technicians. Near the main entrance stands a statue of James Watt, leaning against a stone-carved pressure vessel. Some way had strengthened the great engineer's languid air by slipping a cigarette between his fingers.

The building with its huge engineering laboratories and places for fashioning science

mind is set into a steep hill below the modern part of the university that spreads in a tight formation of brick and concrete northwards.

Sir Sam Curran, the first principal, made no bones about wanting Strathclyde to be an essentially scientific establishment when it changed from Royal College of Science and Technology to university.

The University Grants Committee at the time was against such a single focus and insisted on a more eclectic approach, grafting arts and social sciences on to the hard technological core of the college to provide a wider curriculum. Ironically, it is these departments that the UGC now suggests should take the brunt of the cuts.

The university has maintained a close connexion with Glasgow's industry, town, and gown, have an historically strong association although Strathclyde's connexions spread beyond the city to many parts of the world either directly via research projects and contracts, or through training engineers and scientific technicians from many other countries.

It is clear that this association will increase as the university is obliged to earn more and rely less on grants from central government, although the university would argue that this shift carries with it the obligation to allow universities, or certainly the University Grants Committee, more freedom from the dicta of central government. It is in

the nature of Strathclyde and the strong bias of courses towards engineering, medicine and management that its work should be of practical value to the world outside the university.

Strathclyde, in association with Glasgow University, the Scottish Development Agency and Glasgow District Council, has agreed to cooperate in setting up a science park in Glasgow. The £6m project will draw on the skills of the two universities in research and development activities that could lead to new industries in either the service sector or with new products. Strathclyde's particular contribution is likely to be in pharmaceuticals, electronics and biotechnology, but mar-

keting and management could also make a contribution. The West of Scotland Science Park, as the centre will be called, is a logical extension of university service. "The universities have the skill to develop and research ideas, they even have the ideas. The park will be a place where they can be put into production. It is an arrangement that works superbly well in America and other parts of the world," a head of department declared.

One part of the university which has been earning its living in a substantial way for the past four years is the Fraser of Allender Institute, set up on January 1, 1975 to carry out research on the Scottish economy and beyond that to analyze the character-

istics of small economies. It receives 70 per cent of funding from outside the university in research contracts, forecasts short-term trends in its Quarterly Economic Commentary and for the medium term has developed a model of the Scottish economy for up to 10 years ahead.

The Institute has also agreed to construct and run a model of the British economy as part of the inform exercise to produce a multi-sectoral world forecasting model under the leadership of Professor Almon of the University of Maryland. The material collected by the Institute constitutes an important central source of information on Scotland and has been stored on disc and tape to form the Scottish

Economic Data Bank. This gives a quick service to researchers and companies in search of market information.

As a university with such a weight of science and technology behind it, how do the arts flourish? Inevitably they are overshadowed; the university's music adviser is in fact attached to the mathematics department and the university's theatre group operates from a building which is technically classed as a laboratory. Doc Watson, who runs the centre, admitted that most of the audiences come from outside the university. "It is very much a nine to five place. People have their university lives and their separate social lives because so many of the students live

locally and commute from home."

Mrs Fiona Wilson, director of the Continuing Education Unit in the Library, said that the university and colleges had the annual 2,000 visitors to the exhibition, one came from outside the university and the rest were staff and students. "We have admitted," she said, "that we are a technically-oriented university to try to run an arts centre. People have come here just to get a taste and that is all. Someone had to show that there was a need to life there were arts, engineering and marketing strategies."

Donald Bell

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Combining the skills and expertise of the National Research Development Corporation and the National Enterprise Board, BTG is supporting several development projects at the University of Strathclyde and is keen to do more.

We are, for example, providing financial support for the development of hydrogel polymers as vehicles for controlled release of drugs. Licensees for this project and for other inventions from the University are being sought.

Research workers at other universities who need help in their R&D programmes are invited to contact Dr John Waller at BTG.

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It's no surprise to businesses who set up in Strathclyde when the business barometer continues to rise even in these difficult times. Strathclyde, with a population of 2½ million and a budget of £1½ billion, has the resources, the communications, the skilled and experienced workforces to make all kinds of business thrive and prosper.

Strathclyde Regional Council has the depth of experience to make certain that all types of businesses from the smallest enterprise to multi-national corporations continue to make good business news... and even a few headlines. For further information contact G. Le Sueur, Strathclyde Industrial Development Unit, 21 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6NQ. Tel: 041-221 4290.

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SCOTTISH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY

Last week, the university's Centre for the Study of Public Policy, directed by Professor Richard Rose, announced that the Social Science Research Council is to sponsor a five-year, £288,000 research programme designed to monitor the growth of Britain's "governmental octopus". This is only the latest of numerous research projects — scientific, technological and social — in which Strathclyde is engaged. Here, and on the next page, Ronald Faux interviews the directors of six others.

### Monitoring the traffic tangle

Motorists driving through the centre of Glasgow are under unseen surveillance by the Strathclyde University Department of Electronic Science and Telecommunications. One of the contracts secured by the department from the Transport and Road Research Laboratory has been to help ease the traffic flow through the city centre which at rush hour often reaches the transport equivalent of a thrombosis. Dr Colin MacLeod has a computer terminal at one end in his office and a camera on the other, detecting the flow of traffic at road junctions throughout the city by micro-processor sensors set into the road.

"The computer analyses the information it receives and operates the lights accordingly to give as smooth a traffic flow as possible. The system treats traffic equitably but avoids heavy delays at certain intersections."

The calculation is that delays are reduced by between 5 per cent and 10 per cent, which in terms of total time, friction, fuel and car wear for the whole of the city must represent a significant sum. Other research contracts have been undertaken for the

Post Office, the Ministry of Defence, British National Oil Corporation and the Science and Engineering Research Council. The same signal processing techniques that help Glasgow's traffic to limp a little more quickly are being used in geophysical analysis to extract information about mineral resources using data supplied by the British National Oil Corporation. The project is still in its infancy but we are confident of producing a much more effective interpretation of the BNO data than is available now. The same sort of technique has been used successfully to monitor the reactivity of nuclear power stations," he added.

Another important application of the micro processing system that the Department is developing is in non-destructive testing. Before it folded up and sank disastrously without warning, the oil platform Alexander Kiel was almost certainly

Dr Colin MacLeod

"The world can't end today because it's already tomorrow in some countries."

emitting a high-pitched warning sound of metal under a dangerous level of stress. The sound would have been undetectable to the human ear but might have been picked up by an acoustic monitor being developed by the department and designed to sound the alarm in good time.

Dr MacLeod admitted there were some problems in the system still to be ironed out but he was confident that an ultrasonic watch of offshore structures that are subjected to the constant destructive thrust of wind, sea and tide will be developed.

At present visual inspection backed up by magnetic particle analysis is the method used to detect a likely collapse but the objective is to preempt the problem long before it can be seen by the human eye and become a catastrophe. The department is shortly to launch what will be known as the Strathclyde Shoe, a device which the diver takes down and uses to inspect any critical "nodes" in the structure.

A project on underwater navigation is also in commission to assist divers operating in the difficult conditions and bad visibility around the submerged legs of an offshore structure. It is concerned with investigation acoustic techniques exactly to locate and navigate divers and diving equipment within the cone of the offshore platform. The most advanced system developed so far has become to fix transponders on the structure and use pencil beam sonar systems for location and tracking.

Mr David Morrell, Registrar at Strathclyde, said the university was convinced that Scotland could and must become a world centre of microelectronic research, development and industry, offering a worthwhile future to the ablest young people. He said: "It is an area in which women engineers are expected to have much to contribute and to thrive especially well."

### A leg up on the ladder

When the entrepreneurs who founded the wealth of Glasgow first started out, business management relied on common sense and instinct. Those qualities may remain essential but they are now formalized into an academic qualification. The Strathclyde Business School treats its students to rather more executive surroundings than the white-tiled austerity of the main university block. The prime qualification is the MBA (Master of Business Administration) course, which may be taken full or part-time. The school's second sphere is with post-experience programmes for executives in British-based or overseas companies and from public sector corporations. In addition the school helps in the retraining of redundant executives.

Professor Neil Hood, one of three professors at the school, said that about 1,000 post-experience executives went through the courses each year, including many who already held some formidable qualifications in various sectors of business.

The third side to the school's operations was in research and research training where there was close cooperation with both government departments and private business. The two main focuses for research were on pay and rewards and the policies adopted by international business. Of the 150 full-time MBA students, three-quarters come from Britain and the rest from overseas and the regard in which the qualification is held may be measured by the high number who apply for the course and the relative few who are accepted.

"It runs at 20 to one on the full-time course," Professor Hood explained. "A high proportion of students have international experience and are people in mid-career, usually with at least five years' industrial experience behind them." An MBA (Strathclyde) usually proved to be a powerful assistance up the management ladder.

In the near future the business school will be merged with the university's School of Business and Administration, a much larger partner responsible for a general BA degree programme, the BA in Hotel and Catering Management, the LLB degrees and a wide portfolio of specialist postgraduate programmes. The single "enhanced" business school will have nine subject departments, amounting to a formidable teaching resource.

They will be: Accountancy and Finance, Administration, Economics, Industrial Re-



Professor Michael Baker

"We admit students on academic merit and on a basis of maturity and experience."

lations, Law, Marketing, Office Organization, Operational Research, Scottish Hotel School — and at least three research units. Fraser of Allander Institute for Research on the Scottish Economy, Health Services Operational Research Unit, and the David Livingstone Institute of Overseas Development Studies. Between them, these departments and research units will command the skills and experience of 18 professors, three readers, 30 senior lecturers, 99 lecturers, and 34 research fellows and assistants, and will be responsible for almost 2,000 full time equivalent students.

Teaching and research in business studies are characterized by a high level

of relevance to the wealth-creating sectors of the economy, with more than two-thirds of graduates gaining employment in industry and commerce. To this end Strathclyde has pioneered and developed many innovative courses including, at the undergraduate level, Marketing and Modern Languages, joint degrees in Technology and Business Studies, which have now been copied in several other universities and polytechnics.

At the postgraduate level vocational courses are offered in Careers Guidance, Tourism, Secretarial Studies, Marketing, Personnel Management, and Operational Research, together with numerous post-experience courses for practising managers in both the public and private sectors. Noteworthy among these are the police "command courses" run by the Department of Administration, courses for senior managers in Scottish local authorities, and a course in University administration sponsored by the British Council, which attracted "students" from 18 countries.

Professor Michael Baker, head of the Department of Marketing, said the merger would produce the biggest grouping of university departments of its kind in Britain, one of a small number of centres selected by the UGC for substantial growth. The university planned the part-time MBA course and has already turned out more postgraduate business managers than London and Manchester business schools put together.

There is a thread of hard-nosed reality running throughout the courses. "We admit students on academic merit and on a basis of maturity and experience — even though they may lack normal entrance qualifications. Some are frankly rough diamonds but they show they have the ability. Employers are growing to accept that the content of our degree produces business managers better suited to success than perhaps the better rounded, superficially presentable Oxbridge people," Professor Baker declared.

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## Scribblers are not wanted

Strathclyde University has one of the largest schools of pharmacy in the United Kingdom and strong links forged with the principal hospitals in the West of Scotland. The aim of the university is not to produce the scribblers of prescriptions but rather what they prescribe and the research work is contributing significantly to a deeper knowledge of drugs and how to administer them.

Professor Alexander Florence, head of the Department of Pharmacology, said there had been difficulties understanding, with the pressure from the public to have well-publicized so-called "wonder" drugs made widely available particularly for the treatment of cancer.

"People have been most anxious to get these new substances; Interferon is a classic example, but not enough attention has been paid yet to optimising their activity in the body. We are finding in fact that some drugs are being used that are positively unsuitable or impure," he said.

An inter-disciplinary group of chemists and clinicians has been set up to monitor and control the attack levels of particular drugs "at the bedside."

On the research side, important strides are being taken at Strathclyde. The Cancer Research Campaign



Prof. Alexander Florence

Some drugs being used are positively unsuitable or impure.

awarded £110,000 between Strathclyde and Glasgow universities over a five-year period to improve both clinical pharmacy and chemotherapy for cancer patients. The joint appointment by the two universities of Dr. James Stuart, a pharmacist and doctor of medicine, is aimed at strengthening the links between the two disciplines in their search both for more effective anti-cancer drugs and preparation of exact dosages delivered to precise areas of the body with minimum side-effects.

Strathclyde has been at the forefront of research into new methods of medication. Professor Neil Graham, head of Chemical Technology, has developed a method of controlling the release rate in the patient's body at pre-determined periods varying from a few hours up to a year or more. The new method is to incorporate the drug in a polymer hydrogel which causes a controlled release of a drug into the patient's system. This extends the active life of a single dose and maintains a steady level of effect, avoiding extreme peaks and troughs.

The Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, after years of research, has recently produced a neuro-muscular anaesthetic the first to reach clinical trial from a small university research group for many years. The drug Atracurium is designed to be broken down rapidly in the body, and the clinical tests allow Professor Florence to claim that it has distinct advantages over existing agents. The Wellcome Foundation has spent £1m on taking the new drug through its pilot stage and the Strathclyde pharmacists expect it will have a successful future.

## The challenge offshore

With the long association between Glasgow and shipbuilding it is not surprising that the Department of Ship and Marine Technology should have roots that reach back 99 years to the time when the subject was first taught in the former technical college. The department introduced a degree course in 1964 and there are 100 students studying naval architecture and a select number from many parts of the world on the post-graduate courses in marine technology and ship production technology.

The importance of the department has been strengthened by the development of North sea oil resources and the opportunities that have opened up for universities in terms of technical research. Professor Cheng Kuo, head of the department, describes offshore technology as a tremendous challenge which made it even more important to produce graduates not only with the right knowledge but also with the ability to communicate what they know.

The approach in the past has been to make engineering degree courses 95 per cent technical and the rest was regarded as waffle. Now it is 75 per cent technical and the rest non-technical which is an important balance. Naval architecture had to be wider than the design of ships. "How many ships do you design these days?" Professor Kuo asked ruefully.



Professor Cheng Kuo

The broad philosophy... if it floats, we will be involved.

Six departments at Strathclyde, including ship and marine technology, are contributing to the project MASS (Maintenance Activities Subsea Surface) to tackle the problems of underwater maintenance. The university was one of six centres in Britain to receive special support from the Marine Technology Department of the Science and Engineering Research Council to carry out the research and since 1976 it has been invested by the Government into marine projects.

Professor Kuo is the coordinator of the research work on Project MASS which involves the Departments of Biology, Civil Engineering, Electronic Science, and Telecommunications, Marketing, and Metallurgy. Applied Microbiology and Mechanics of Materials are also being drawn into the project.

Strathclyde has a number of other projects connected with the exploitation of primary sources of energy. A teaching commitment to mining can also be traced back 100 years and with sponsorship by the British National Oil Corporation a new Department of Mining and Petroleum Engineering has emerged with more than three-quarters of its students directly sponsored by the industry.

The Department of Applied Geology carries out research on the safe disposal of nuclear waste and on geological hazards connected with nuclear power plants. The Department of Thermodynamics and Fluid Mechanics is a major centre for research into the safety of water-cooled nuclear reactors.

## Catching up with microbes

An important strength of the university lies in the technology unit, now one of Britain's leading institutions in this area which may prove as significant to the next decade as the computer chip has been to this. The philosophy has been to link biotechnology with other disciplines with biochemists, microbiologists and chemical engineers joining forces. Earlier this year the university founded Monotech, a company owned by Coats Patons, which carries research work on to a commercial scale.

Professor John E. Smith, head of the department of applied microbiology, pointed out that what was now a formalized science had been carried on for years at Strathclyde under other names such as fermentation technology, but there had been a great deal of excitement ever since the full potential of combining pure bioscience with applied bioscience had been appreciated.

Britain fell sadly short of the American effort in this area of harnessing microbes for practical purposes and more than a hundred companies had been established to exploit genetic engineering. "The old story is repeating itself. The innovation and early experimentation has been here in Britain but the commercial development will take place abroad. We are training bright young people; some will go into British industry, only a few can be kept in the university sphere but a considerable number will be forced to emigrate."

Biotechnology is a massive sophistication of the ancient arts of the brewer and distiller who harness organisms to manufacture a product. The important areas for development include medicine and a whole range of compounds that provide greater control over disease, particularly viral infections.

Strathclyde is trying hard to impress the importance of



Professor John Smith

A repeat of the story of the micro-chip — Britain is losing out.

the subject, but the Government has been slow to respond, even though in Europe there is a swift awareness of the implications of the subject. The annual Strathclyde course in fungal biotechnology, for instance, attracts two-thirds of its students from Europe. The university offers a special course in business studies in biotechnology, unique in Bri-

tain, since it produces a business studies graduate with a considerable awareness of both bio and engineering technologies.

Another Scottish coup lies in the research into the problems created by filling up holes in the ground with rubbish. Professor Smith explained: "It is possible to treat these holes and create the conditions that will produce methane gas. Simply expressed it is the technique of placing a gas holder over the local refuse dump so that anaerobic fermentation, which takes place in the absence of oxygen, can produce a product that can be used for local heating schemes."



Professor James Harvey

The lead-in time between 'Eureka' and arrival is always longer than one thinks.

## From sauce to manhole covers

Soy sauce for the Orient might seem a close second to coals for Newcastle as an example of a market that is thoroughly saturated, yet Strathclyde's Centre for Industrial Innovation ranks its sauce project as a good example of how the university is transforming theory into hard business practice. With an £88,000 Wolfson grant, the centre has used research by the Department of Applied Microbiology into the nature of soy sauce, and reduced the production process from the traditional time of up to three years to about six weeks.

The commercial implications are promising. Production of soy sauce and the related miso is second only to alcohol in the world league of commercial fermentations. The Japanese produce 1,400,000 tonnes of soy sauce a year and beyond that one item lies a broad range of

fermented products to which the Strathclyde techniques can be adapted.

Professor James M. Harvey, head of the Department of Mechanics of Materials and deputy principal said the university had taken a lot of the initiative in encouraging industry to develop many inventions. The CII had to earn its living and at the start of 1981, the university had secured £8m in research and development sponsorship, a 32 per cent increase on the previous year.

"There is a whole range of practical services rendered to industry by the university; advice on manhole covers for the GPO and on the design of containers for the whisky industry, and a colossal list of other examples of consultancy work," Professor Harvey said.

The centre was opened in 1968 with government funding for three years, since when it has relied on its own resources

to earn a living. The vastly different investment philosophy in America is daunting for practically-minded academics on this side of the Atlantic who compare such enterprises as the "Research Triangle" in North Carolina, which pours out ideas to translate into commercial viability, with the Science Park in Glasgow which remains an empty space and a good idea in search of funds.

"The development cannot be done overnight. The lead-in time between the inventor crying out 'Eureka' and the arrival of something like the end of a production line is always longer than anyone thinks", Professor Harvey added.

Inevitably in a university with such a strong scientific bias, the graduates will be practical people. "That should not be looked down upon. It is vital for the future wealth creation of the country that the knowledge acquired here should be applied in a practical way", the professor said.

Strathclyde was one of the first universities to run a sandwich course, although the definition has now changed so that what was "sandwich" no longer ranks as such. The essential element of allowing students to learn from outside industry remains, however, and this process has even become two-way. The "Teaching Companies Scheme" involves post-graduate working part-time in industry and the rest of the time in the university on projects of benefit to the company and the student's understanding. The Science and Engineering Research Council funds the scheme as an effort to improve the mutual exchange between industry and the university.

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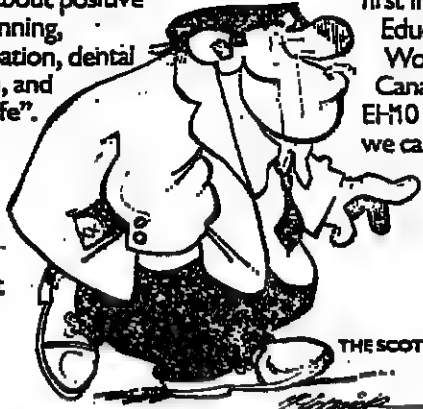
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RANK XEROX

10th November 1981

Dr G. Hills  
Principal and Vice-Chancellor  
University of Strathclyde  
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Yours faithfully

*[Signature]*  
Dr J. J. Hill  
Manager, Rank Xerox Manufacturing Research



Ronald Faux writes on the legacies; Charles McKean on the future

## Cutbacks and a return to the Curran concept

Strathclyde has emerged from scrutiny by the University Grants Committee less bruised than many other centres of learning. The proposal is that there should be a reduction of 250 students, 200 from the arts and social sciences and 50 from science and technology. This represents a paradoxical change in the university which the first principal, Dr Sam Curran, might have welcomed. When Strathclyde was founded in 1964 from the Royal College of Science and Technology, Dr Curran (now Sir Samuel Curran) pressed for a university that was entirely devoted to science and technology.

The UGC refused this concept, insisting that a university establishment, even one so scientifically inclined as Strathclyde, should offer a broad range of courses. The new principal, Dr Graham Hills, reflects wryly on this return towards the broad front held by Curran and before him by John Anderson, whose Institute, opened in 1796, was the university's foundation stone.

The financial cutback, over which there is no choice, means that the present grant of £17.1m will be reduced in 1983-84 to £14.69m. The university has 5,500 undergraduates, 900 post-graduates, 750 academic staff and some hard decisions to make about how the economics should be achieved without disrupting too severely the important commitments already undertaken. The administration has been perplexed by some of the recommendations made by the UGC, particularly the suggestion that business studies should be increased and management studies reduced.

One university official said: "That is rather like insisting that the car engine should be increased and that a smaller driver's seat should be fitted. There are large areas of ambiguity in the UGC's recommendations."

Professor Alexander Florence, head of pharmacy, complained about a lack of balance in the UGC so far as his own department was concerned. "Because Britain produces only 1,000 graduates a year and the medical schools turn out many more than that, we are up against an enormous power group. Even though the pharmaceutical industry is the most

successful in Britain and health care is of increasing importance because people are living longer, the sciences allied to medicine and pharmacy have been singled out for the most savage treatment.

This is in spite of the record of full employment for graduates and the fact that we have 800 applications for 70 places each year. The UGC ordered an arbitrary increase in areas that are still trying to get new students. The cuts and the way they have been designed have raised grave doubts among university staff about the value of a grants committee that is so closely fettered to central government.

Dr Graham Hills, the Principal of Strathclyde, strongly resists this development and believes it is essential to restore the independence of the UGC. "Central government is not well informed and has a poor record in planning of all kinds. The Establishment is, by definition, incapable of sustained innovation. Autonomous bodies are better able to provide for their own future and universities should at once seek to strengthen their independence and that of the UGC."

They could only do this by attaining greater financial independence. It was proposed that by stages universities achieved that independence so that they might better serve the country. It was just possible, said Dr Hills, that in applying the present Government's logic to our own affairs, universities might be encouraged to do so but it was doubtful whether any government would readily agree to greater independence of the UGC. At worst, they should be able to enter discussions with government on different terms than those of a supplicant.

The first step towards greater independence would be to indicate to government an intention to charge fully economic fees to all students, home and overseas. Such fees would cover all recurrent expenditure. Since all home students registered at British universities were entitled to mandatory awards to cover agreed fees, irrespective of parental income, the immediate burden of university costs would be transferred to the local authorities (or the



Students cluster at the foot of a statue of James Watt in the Royal College building. Watt was a close friend of John Anderson, founder of the university, and is believed to have collaborated with him in the development of the steam engine.

Scottish Education Department) who would immediately, via the Rate Support Grant, transfer the same cost to the Treasury.

It would be a book transaction but it would eliminate one unnecessary link in the present chain of direction, namely the Department of Education and Science. The discrimination against overseas students would fall away and it would be open to universities to admit the needy and the deserving home or overseas student at the deemed marginal cost or less.

The principal role of the UGC would be to oversee these arrangements and to levy universities for such centrally distributed funds as for new buildings, minor works and other non-recurring items. "The 'new' UGC would, therefore, continue to perform its present functions of overseeing the system and handing down informed opinion and recommendations. It might seek to establish agreed student numbers and to stifle unseemly competition. The total student quota would be subject to negotiation with the

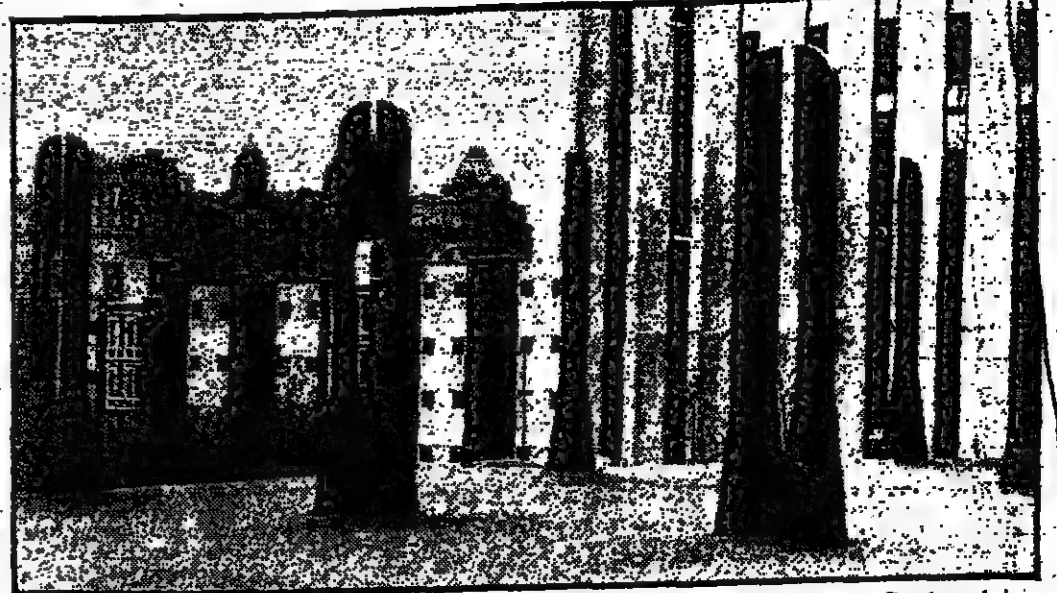
DES or any other government body responsible for the financing of students through mandatory grants. Clearly, agreement would be required as to the total level of financial provision if that continues to come from central government funds", Dr Hills declared.

The Government should not be resisted if it preferred to impose a negotiated cash limit. Any shortfall below the estimated cost of maintaining an agreed student population would be met by supplementary fees, to be charged by individual universities to individual students according to local needs and possibly differing from subject to subject. The supplementary fees would initially be small and might, where necessary, be loan-financed along Swedish lines.

"It is unlikely that the Government would be eased cheerfully even along this path, and it might well suggest equally acceptable alternatives", he added. A second stage might be to introduce a new scheme of shared responsibility which would guarantee an increased measure of independence for the UGC.

If the Government resisted that, universities would need to consider total independence, charging economic fees and expecting government to provide loans to students and tax allowances to parents so that student demand could be met.

Dr Hills thought it might be argued that universities did not deserve a separate, independent and possibly privileged status. "It has been argued persuasively that they have failed the system and brought their fate upon themselves. That is certainly widely believed and is a reason why greater independence should only be sought within a framework of greater opportunities for the student population of this country", he said. It should be remembered also that no medical practitioner, few lawyers and few other professional people could take their place in society without a university's imprimatur. "If we have not that degree of confidence in ourselves as a semi-independent estate of the Realm, then we might as well become resigned to be civil servants".



The stones of Callanish, a notable feature of the university campus. Sculpted in steel by Gerald Laing, they were inspired by megalithic stones near Stornaway and are popularly known as Steelhenge.

## Let the plumbers plumb

One legacy from the days when Strathclyde was the Royal College of Science and Technology is the nickname given to its school of architecture by the other schools: the plumbers. The other schools, with longer artistic pedigrees, looked patronisingly at Strathclyde's involvement with building science, with advanced techniques, and with computers. "Let the plumbers plumb," they seemed to say, "and leave the design to us".

Perhaps as a result, the department explored and developed areas untouched by the more traditional establishments. One notable example of such innovation was the impetus to rehabilitate Glasgow tenement buildings at a time when the official policy was to knock them all down. That impetus derived, originally, from technical work by Peter Robinson, followed by further development and practical research by Raymond Young in Govan, both whilst students.

The department built on that success by establishing a teaching architectural practice based in a community shop in Govan. The practice was called Assist. In its nine

years of operation, under the leadership of Jim Johnston, who is still a Strathclyde tutor, Assist has continued to develop its work in tenement rehabilitation, its university base giving it an opportunity to fuse the requirements of research with those of practicality.

However, the session 1980-1981 — for no particular reason — has also shown that the "plumbers" title no longer holds good: indeed, it became a kind of *annus mirabilis* for the department.

For the first time, the same architectural school won both the Urban Design Prize and the Building Design Prize from the Royal Institute of British Architects. Furthermore, one student — David Page — was joint winner of the Rowand Anderson silver medal, a prize awarded by the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, for the best student of the year throughout the country. In addition, a team consisting of David Page, James Nicholl and Brian Park were awarded the Keuro Tange prize at the International Union of Architects conference earlier this year in Warsaw. They were also

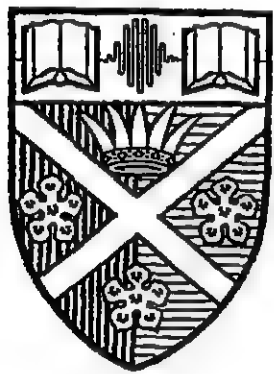
judged to be one of the most outstanding of 300 entries.

Their entry was the only one so honoured from the United Kingdom. On their return to Britain, they discovered that they had also been awarded the third prize in a "Design for Energy Management" competition organised by the British Gas Corporation.

Clearly, it was an exceptional year for the department and one which should put Britain's 37 other schools of architecture on their mettle. It is also the case that the majority of the above prizes were awarded for just two schemes: a detailed and thorough examination of the Kite area in Cambridge, and proposals for its upgrading.

The scheme was exhibited in Cambridge and has aroused considerable interest. The other is a scheme for the revitalization of Robert Owens' famous milltown of New Lanark.

Excellent as both schemes are, neither needed to tackle, nor did they, the problem of pure design untrammelled by existing buildings or historic environments. Perhaps that will be the only opportunity open to architects in future.



## University of Strathclyde

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- MSc in Microbial Technology.
- MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Pharmaceutical Analysis.
- MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Forensic Science.
- MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Pharmacology.
- MSc in Clinical Pharmacy (full-time and part-time).

#### Business and Administration

- MSc in Industrial Relations.
- Postgraduate Diploma in Personnel Management.
- Postgraduate Diploma in Careers Guidance.
- MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Operational Research (full-time and part-time).
- Postgraduate Diploma in Accountancy.
- MSc and Diploma in Financial Studies.
- MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing (with additional options in International Marketing and Food and Agricultural Marketing).
- MCom/Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing for Developing Countries.
- Postgraduate Diploma in Secretarial Studies.
- MSc and Diploma in Tourism (full-time and part-time — MSc full-time only).
- LLM in Business Legal Studies (full-time and part-time).
- Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice.
- Master of Business Administration (full-time and part-time).

#### Arts and Social Studies

- MSc and Diploma in Development Economics.
- Postgraduate Diploma in English Studies.
- MSc in Public Policy (full-time and part-time).
- Postgraduate Diploma in Librarianship.
- Postgraduate Diploma in Russian Language.
- MSc in Politics (full-time and part-time).
- MSc in Research Methods in Developmental and Social Psychology.
- MSc in Educational Psychology (full-time and part-time).

#### Research Facilities

All Departments provide opportunities for research leading, as appropriate, to the higher degrees of Master of Science (MSc), Master of Arts (MA), Master of Letters (MLitt), Master of Architecture (MArch), Master of Laws (LLM), Master of Commerce (MCom), Master of Business Administration (MBA) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).

Many of the advanced Master's degree courses offered are recognised for the tenure of Science and Engineering Research Council and Social Science Research Council Advanced Course Studentships; in addition certain Diploma courses are supported by the Scottish Education Department. Suitably qualified candidates for research degrees will be considered for Research Council Research Studentships.

The University is able to offer its own POSTGRADUATE STUDENTSHIPS to well qualified honours graduates intending to pursue higher degree study. Further details of this scheme are available on request from the Academic Registrar.

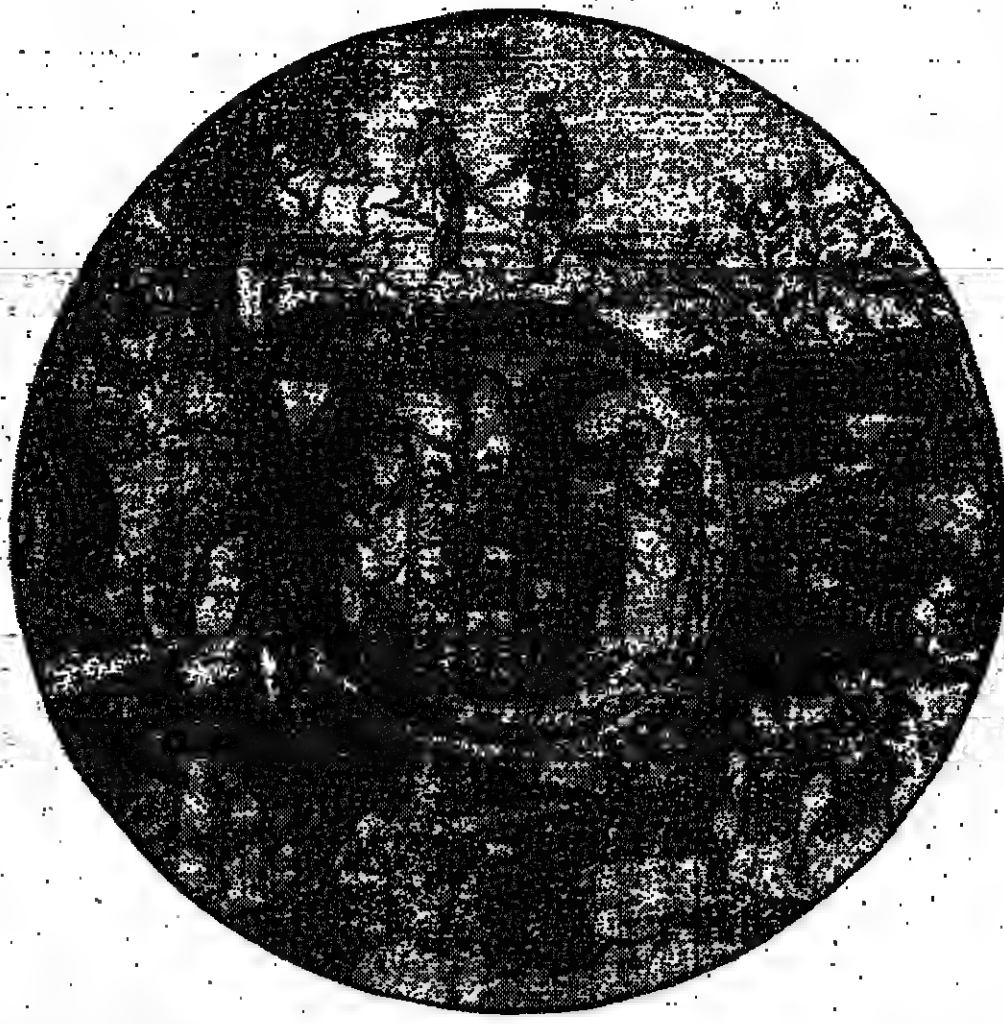
Detailed information about courses, sources of finance and facilities for research is obtainable from the Academic Registrar (PGX), University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, G1 1XW. Field of Study should be specified in enquiries.



THE ARTS

Galleries

# Disappointing muddle of motives



Apollo and Python and Apollo and Daphne: plate from majolica service made for Isabella d'Este

d'Este was one of history's grand acquirers, of works both antique and contemporary. We possibly recall that the Gonzaga's eventual loss, with the sack of Mantua in 1530, was also Britain's gain, since Charles I had just previously acquired for his own art collection the cream of the movable Gonzaga treasures, including most famously the Mantegna Triumphant Caesar now at Hampton Court.

Nor was Mantegna the only major artist to receive a lavish commission from one or other of the Gonzaga. Titian was a favourite, and later Rubens found an enthusiastic patron in Duke Vincenzo I, producing one of his largest schemes for the Church of the Trinità in Mantua, dispersed since the end of the eighteenth century. Pius many outstanding sculptors, architects, goldsmiths, illuminators, potters — the list seems almost

endless. So, one might expect that this show would be entirely up to the art critic's street, assembling artistic treasures connected with the Gonzaga and leaving it at that. But no — or not quite. The organizers seem to have been infected with the passion for filling in the historical background which has dominated the big historical and dynastic exhibitions elsewhere. There the background has been brought to the fore: like it or not, the art works in the Prussia show play a thoroughly subordinate role, representing just one more kind of evidence. Here, in a much smaller exhibition, the mixed motives of the great historical shows become all too distracting.

Often, threading one's way through the jumble, one cannot help wondering if the tail is not wagging the dog, or indeed which is the tail and

which is the dog. For one thing, such an exhibition anywhere but Mantua requires too many of the untransportable things to be represented by reduced photographic reproductions and reconstructions. Even London's main advantage — the proximity of the *Triumph of Caesar* — is more apparent than real, since they cannot be removed from their present controlled environment, and figure mainly in related drawings and engravings by followers of Mantegna. The reassembly of known parts from Rubens's dismembered *Adoration of the Trinity* is interesting as an art-historical curiosity, but in its present state is not exactly going to wow us with the wonder of Rubens's art. The partial reassembly of Isabella d'Este's famous majolica plate service is very nice, but too small to stir the imagination anything like as well as

ecstatic early descriptions of it.

Historically considered, the exhibition is much too small: we are whipped from generation to generation without punctuation enough to take in unfamiliar names and dates. Clearly the enormous size of the recent continental exhibitions is not entirely megalo-mania, but serves a genuine purpose as well. And, whether we consider the show primarily in an artistic or an historical perspective, there are altogether too many items like the picture wrongly labelled *A Woman* formerly believed to be Isabella d'Este holding a Portrait of a Man. Attributed to Bernardino Licinio. Though it is a pleasant enough painting, if it does not have the historical interest of representing Isabella d'Este, or the artistic interest of being more than a badly attributed minor artist, what is it doing there except to fill up a bit of wall? There are, in compensation, a handful of superb Titians and Rubens, and a case of very fine classical bronze statues by Antico. But any hopes that there will be the knockout show of the season are doomed to disappointment.

By no stretch of the imagination could Thomas Holloway, gilt and ornament tycoon and founder of Royal Holloway College, be made to stand in as a nineteenth-century equivalent of the princely patron. Yet his collection, assembled in two years in his eighties as an additional benefaction to the college and an educational aid to the young ladies studying there, is quite remarkable. While the picture gallery at the college, where the collection is being redecorated, 44 of the 77 oil paintings are on show at Agnew's (until December 11) in aid of the Victorian Society — and to the pleasure, one would imagine, particularly of Victorian Society members. They offer a fascinating cross-section of conservative artistic taste in England in the 1880s, both for living painters and for those of the fairly recent past.

Obviously Holloway's taste — or that of his advisers — went mostly towards pictures which tell a story. Even with Turner, it is a picture with a story, *Van Tromp going about to please his Masters*, which claims pride of place. And among the later works there are examples of most of the popular genres: panoramas of everyday life like *Firth's The Railway Station*, historical get-pieces like *MacLise's Peter*



Detail from Correggio's sketch for his painting "Allegory of Vice", also for Isabella

the Great at Deptford Dockyard, modern dramas like Frank Holl's *Newgate: Commenced for Trial*, bits of discreet fancy-dress erotica like Edwin Long's *The Babylonian Marriage Market*, picturesque glimpses of foreign parts like John Burgess's *Licensing the Beggars in Spain*, plus a number of rather glum landscapes and the required philistines, fisher-folk and other deserving poor. Nothing distressingly advanced, of course; not even a Pre-Raphaelite unless, like Millais in *The Princess in the Tower*, he had thoroughly forsaken his dangerous ways. It is a comfortable, rather fuzzy and second-rate collection, in other words. But what it loses in artistic excitement it more than makes up as an extraordinarily vivid document of a particular period, a specific habit of mind.

What the modern equivalent of Holloway have been doing when investing their

spare cash in art works is admirably (and I think flatteringly) documented in a small loan exhibition, *Art in the City*, at the Maclean Gallery in St. George Street until November 18. The range of styles represented is astonishing, and while one can see some natural ties with the subject-matter — of course Matheson, with their Hong-kong connections, would have Chinese or with the nationality of the painter. Robert Fleming Holdings specialize in Scottish artists, for instance — the choices seem to have been made with discretion and even flair. Who would have suspected that city officials were hiding excellent Ginnery and Newells and Brangwyns and Cadells, not to mention Tom Phillips and after? This up of the iceberg makes one long to explore the lower depths.

John Russell Taylor

## Splendours of the Gonzaga

Victoria and Albert Museum

The Benevolent Millionaire: Paintings from the Thomas Holloway Collection

Thomas Agnew and Sons

Art in the City

Maclean Gallery

When a new genre seems to be defining itself, it generally takes a little time to retool our responses in order to fit its specific critical requirements — or, for that matter, to decide whether it is worth our while to do so. Take the form of historical exhibition which has suddenly become the fashion all over Europe in the last two or three years. During this time we have seen — or at least heard tell of — giant exhibitions devoted to such subjects as *The Wittelsbachs and Bavaria*, *Maria Theresa and Her Time*, *Austria in the Age of Joseph II*, *Augsburg from the Renaissance to the Baroque*, *Florence and Cosimo in the Time of the Medici* and so on, right up to Berlin's present huge celebration/dissection of Prussia. They are new only in a certain sense: the Victorians, with their insatiable thirst for miscellaneous knowledge, would have had no difficulty in dealing with them. But we, in this age of specialization, just have to ask what audience they are directed at, who is best qualified to judge them, and what sort of standards he should apply.

All these questions arise with the new winter show at the Victoria and Albert Museum, *Splendours of the Gonzaga* (until January 31). One would not necessarily expect them to. It sounds like a straightforward, traditional bag of vague references to the splendours of these Renaissance lords of Mantua were primarily artistic. Though for the non-specialist they spring less readily to mind than the Medici or the Borgias, such associations as we do have are almost all of a piece. We remember that Isabella

Michael Ratcliffe

London debuts

## Character and refinement

The lutenist David Parsons treated his audience to a beguiling variety in his Wigmore Hall debut, encompassing over two centuries of characterful music and showing something of the refinement of his teacher, Jakob Lindberg, in the way he executed his programme.

Three Ricercars by Francesco da Milano, doyen of the sixteenth-century lute composers, were given with a sure touch, the first warmly euphonious, and the last pair dazzling in their technical demands, confidently met. Mr Parsons's playing of three ballad settings by Thomas Robinson, full of charm, were followed by music by Dowland, Robinson's successor as lutenist to the court of Christian IV in Denmark. Here the elaborations of the final fantasia were handled to an admirable sense of rhythm. Equally encouraging was the eloquence in his playing of later music by Gaudier, Reussner and Weiss. A deeply felt, sonorous Sarabande and a nimble Gigue in Weiss's A minor Suite, representing the florid baroque style at its pinnacle, confirmed Mr Parsons's promise.

Giving an enterprising Purcell Room debut recital were the clarinetist Victoria Soames and the pianist Julius Drake, like Mr Parsons both recent Royal College of Music students. They included the first performance of a commission from Phyllis Tate, *Prelude-Aria-Interlude-Finale*, typically reserved yet pleasantly lyrical and convincing. Mr Soames's playing of Liszt's *Valcorta* (1953), written as an address to Dylan Thomas after his death, was more of a challenge musically, although there seemed little here to differentiate the Lento appassionato movement from the Lento tranquillo.

In both of these pieces, as in Debussy's *Première Rhapsodie* and a rather inflexible Brahms F minor Sonata, op 120 no 1, Miss Soames was not only confident all her sound though tends to a fashionable unrelenting intensity, and there were times when I yearned for the clarinet's soft hollowness to provide a sedate ingredient to her undoubtedly excellent musicianship. Mr Drake was an able partner indeed, his crisp, alert playing responsive to every nuance of Miss Soames's well moulded phras-

ing. And he came into his own with a dynamic, precise reading of Schumann's flighty *Papillons*, op 2.

The outstanding qualities of the playing of Margaret Mills, the American pianist who made her Wigmore Hall debut, were well shown in three of Chopin's Sate-like *Pieces pittoresques*, and beautiful of tone, in Brahms's song-like Schumann Variations, op 9. Her view of Mozart's A minor Sonata, K310, perhaps too broad, too controlled, but she had at her command all the varieties of touch and sound demanded by Debussy's *Prelude "Ce qu'a vu le vent d'Ouest"*.

There were two silver linings to the dark cloud of the Sablonnet Festival's dismal St John's, Smith Square, concert. "Music in the Age of the Gonzaga," timed nicely to coincide with the opening of the V & A's exhibition. It was a short, and on a high level, dramatically the advance made in the last twenty years by British performers in the field of early music.

Stephen Pettitt

## Dance

### Confrontation rather than contrast

Tufnell/Greenwood

Almeida

Between two works produced and performed by Miranda Tufnell and Dennis Greenwood for their programme at the Almeida theatre on Sunday night, there was another with choreography by Tufnell for two other dancers, which was so different in its approach as to give the evening not just contrast but a positive confrontation of styles.

In the discrepant piece, *Fall Out*, Laurie Booth and Sue Maclean (who have both presented their own shows earlier in the Dance Umbrella

season) perform dances based upon imbalance. Separately, they push their poses to the point where gravity intervenes; together, they push or pull each other in or out of balance with a hand, shoulder, rump or whatever other part of the body proves most convenient.

Presumably, as with the other works given, *Fall Out* includes improvisation within a set framework. It provides, for 20 minutes or so, a gentle flow of movement that is interesting and pleasing to watch.

The two longer pieces which Tufnell and Greenwood themselves perform contain nothing so seductive. They prefer to spend 30 or 35

minutes walking, standing, sitting, crouching, or lying and stretching. They carry out those activities competently and impassively.

During *Night Pieces*, they also switch on and off. Ex-lamps which hang low at various points of the stage and provide the only illumination. They are accompanied in this piece by an actor, Chris Cheek, who also walks or sits while reciting a monologue or what would sound like random nonsense if it did not include some presumably delicate repetitions.

There is a little byplay with a hand-held lamp in *Other Rooms*, too, but the variety in their white overalls or the tablecloths which they manoeuvre about.

If you were to object that such activities have no obvious connexion with dancing I would not be disposed to argue with you, although some must think they do. There is another performance tomorrow if you want to judge for yourself.

John Percival

## Opera

### The middle way

The New York City Opera, which began Beverly Sills's general management with éclat last year, found the going more difficult this autumn, at least in the matter of new productions. An air of comfortableness and the middle way has replaced the spirit of adventure, and the one adventurous operatic choice, Verdi's *Nabucco* (production borrowed from Mianth, is beyond the capabilities of the company).

The season began with two items of musical theatre (Sills is anxious to create a niche in the company for these works): *The Student Prince* revived last year, and *Song of Norway*. The latter was a Broadway musical of the war years fashioned from the music of Grieg, and its naïvely romantic plot — based as several reviews noted, on a libretto by Grieg — is but an excuse for the Grieg tunes. These, climax on a potted version of the Piano Concerto, choreographed on this occasion for the Feld Ballet. The production was traditional; the audience enjoyed seeing this extinct species returned to the stage.

*Nabucco* led off the strictly operatic season, conducted with more finesse than fire by Lawrence Pallo and staged by Ghisler Hager in what seemed an attempt to revive the Cecil B. De Mille monumental, in setting as well as in scenic design, surging masses of chorus, crashing idols and rapine. Grace Bumbry attempted the impossible role of Abagail, to some vocal result, but she was not nearly commanding enough to make one forget the tessitura.

For some inexplicable reason, City Opera chose to retire its celebrated Frank Corsara production of *La traviata* for a new one. This was straightforwardly presented in a production by Lou Gurnea, with sets that were essentially free curtains on a turntable. Diana Soviero's Violetta is well-schooled and Italianate in voice and makes all the right dramatic moves, but with precious little inner conviction or urgency. Barry McCandless, as Alfredo, has a particularly freely produced tenor voice, but a degree of lyricism he made a notable debut last year in *Pêcheurs de perles* — yet everything seems to pour out of him in much the same way, so that the result is more vocalism than attention to any specific dramatic character or moment. Under Mario Bernardi's background conducting, *La traviata* became a repertory run-through, acceptable enough but more than a little dull.

Webster's *Freischütz*, as everyone knows, is an opera more beloved than heard on stage, and one that rarely succeeds outside Germany. City Opera sought to combat this situation by presenting it in a fluent English translation by Andrew Porter, and in a production by John Copley which struck pretty much to the specifics of the libretto. It did not work, primarily because, although Copley set the story line with clarity and force, he presented the "magic scenes" on another level.

Copley's solutions — playing the magic with strobe lights in "slow motion" and the central Wolf's Glen scene with flapping birds (it seemed a pity that the under someone in a wild costume, explosions and blinding lights and a huge figure of Samuel rising up — are indeed attention-getting in service is very nice, but too small to stir the imagination anything like as well as

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Patrick J. Smith

Philharmonia/Sawallisch

Festival Hall

If justification were needed for the Philharmonia Orchestra's series of Brahms concerts this week it is primarily in the chance to renew our acquaintance with Wolfgang Sawallisch. He was given an enthusiastic reception at the first of his programmes on Sunday which brought him back to the first time since 1968, most of his work now being divided between Munich, where he directs the Bavarian State Opera, and Japan.

He began, in recognition of Remembrance Sunday, with the *Tragic Overture*, its character, formed by the degrees of expressive intensity and the musical spirit and detail, as in the warmth of the brass, the stealthy tread of the lower strings. Each feature was carefully judged and precisely placed within the overall ensemble, and achieved the hallmark of an assured standard from the outset.

Any theatrical associations were to be found not in the overture but in the Double Concerto, where the violin of Salvatore Accardo and the cello of Lynn Harrell brought dramatic declamation to their respective solo entries, and continued this in their later interchange of melodic dialogue. However, they also combined with an eloquent feeling that never became sentimental, and, because of the convincing, rhythmic and spacious orchestral perspective, it was a pleasure to hear.

The C minor symphony after the interval was more than that, it was an experience. First, in the long singing lines with which Sawallisch wove his textures into each movement. Secondly, in the ebb and flow of symphonic thought over long phrases and thirdly in the fine shading of instrumental detail which he obtained from the players, magnificent first horn (Michael Thompson) and first oboe (Gordon Hunt) in particular.

Noël Goodwin

ECO/Leppard

Queen Elizabeth Hall

All of the music in Sunday night's programme of Mozart was written for Prague, a city which meant success to the composer. Figaro, having cleared out after a promising Vienna premiere, was received there with enthusiasm in the autumn of 1786. Its popularity precipitated the

## Concerts

commissioning of *Don Giovanni*, and, later, *La Clemenza di Tito*. As a gesture of gratitude, perhaps, Mozart also composed the Prague Symphony, No 38, probably specifically for a performance there early in 1787.

In the first of the English Chamber Orchestra's recitals at this last week's towering strengths, with their conductor Raymond Leppard at great pains not to over-interpret. Always graceful, the half-lyrical half-brilliant Allegro touched Beethovenian heights at its climax, and the final Presto had a vigorous bite, offset by a central Andante which was perhaps too daringly spacious. Throughout the final section without loss of discipline, not forgetting the fiery octave approach to the coda, was surely record-breaking. With his wrists of steel, there was one temptation he could not resist: many a fortissimo emerged too loud, leaving him with insufficient in reserve for the really great moments of climax. But it was still a remarkable performance, urgent in motivation yet cutting through all romantic accretions to the text.

In Beethoven's Waldstein, chosen as centrepiece of the first half, his fast, spitting approach to the opening movement's *allegro con brio* was just a little too suggestive of rage over a lost penny. But cunning understatement at the outset of the Adagio emphasized this movement as a groping in the dark towards the light of the finale, very much the sonata's great moment of truth in this judiciously timed and pedalled, firmly rhythmical reading.

Joan Chissell

Anton Stadler. The ECO had limbered up with the *Don Giovanni* overture, immediately establishing a fulsome sound, but with their razor-sharp ensemble leaving the textures clear. In the continuous yet well varied succession of Sir German Dances, K509, artfully composed trifles, Mr Leppard opted wisely for a brazen approach.

Stephen Pettitt

Philip Fowke

Queen Elizabeth Hall

In an unconventionally planned programme on Sunday afternoon the English pianist Philip Fowke found his outlet for his brilliant fingers and clearcut vision in the two Hungarian works sharing his second half. With a few weeks of the century year still to go, Bartok's *Improvisations* and *Hungarian Folk Tunes*, Op 20,

COLIN BLAKELY  
"marvellous" Gdn  
ROSEMARY HARRIS  
"outstanding" Dfcl  
IN ARTHUR MILLER'S  
splendid play "D.M.II"  
**ALL MY SONS**  
fine production Tms  
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## Stock Exchange Prices

# Strong gains

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Nov 9. Dealings End, Nov 20. \$ Contango Day, Nov 23 Settlement Day, Nov 30  
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]



How deep is  
US recession?  
Page 17

# Business News

THE TIMES Tuesday November 10 1981

Solve your gift problems fast  
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## Professor warns of jobless increase

By Frances Williams  
Sustained economic recovery is impossible if the Government continues its present policies, Professor Wynne Godley, prominent critic of the Government's monetarist economic strategy, claimed yesterday.

Without making a U-turn and abandoning restrictive policies, any upturn in activity over the coming year would soon peter out, giving way to continued stagnation and further big increases in unemployment, he predicted.

But Professor Godley, who was addressing a conference on the outlook for the British economy organized by James Capel and Company, the City stockbroking firm, was also deeply pessimistic about the likely effects of any U-turn.

He confessed to slight contempt for the growing consensus in favour of a £5,000m to £6,000m reflationary stimulus, now being urged on the Government by prominent "wets" in



Professor Godley: policy change is needed.

the Conservative Party, by the Confederation of British Industry and by a number of university economists.

This stimulus was not enough to reverse the rising unemployment trend. And Professor Godley claimed that without exchange controls, a U-turn would prompt a fresh sterling crisis and worsen inflation before it had time to work through into output.

Reflation sufficient to start bringing down unemployment would not produce growth of between 3 and 4 per cent over at least two years. On present trends, this would produce an enormous balance of payments deficit of £9,000m to £10,000m.

Professor Godley did not elaborate on his own views, but he, along with the Cambridge Economic Policy Group which he heads, is one of the foremost advocates of an alternative economic strategy based on substantial reflation behind import control barriers.

## 'Buzby Bond' issue opposed by Treasury

By Bill Johnston, Electronics Correspondent  
Government ministers are questioning the cost of issuing a bond to raise money in the private market for British Telecom. They fear that this will prove more expensive than the sale of orthodox Government stock.

The Treasury, troubled by the low price the Government received for Cable & Wireless shares last week, believes there is no justification for a bond issue and points out that British Telecom, with a Government guarantee behind it, is assured of its position in the lucrative United Kingdom market. There is no reason for financial institutions to press for profits which could only be justified if the proposed bond involved significant risk, it argues.

The Department of Industry is, however, defending the issue of such a performance-related bond, nicknamed the "Buzby Bond", and expected to raise between £100m and £150m for British Telecom's investment programme.

The issue has been raised again after indications last week that the Treasury and the Department of Industry had reached agreement on the bond issue but still had a few details to thrash out.

Further pressure has been placed on the bond issue by the financial institutions, who are demanding a 4 per cent real rate of return on the investment, after allowing for inflation.

## Bristow decides to scrap Wessex helicopter fleet

Bristow Helicopters has decided never to use its 10 Wessex helicopters again commercially, after the August crash of a Wessex in the North Sea in which 13 people died.

Mr Alan Bristow, the company chairman, said yesterday the board had decided after the crash not to use the helicopters again unless the cause of the accident was found.

"We don't know what caused the accident, nor does anybody else, and the chances of discovering it are remote."

Whatever the outcome of the official inquiry still under way, the helicopters would not be used again commercially, because the risks were too high.

A sea-bed survey, completed last week, has shown that the wreck of the helicopter is now

## Bank rate cut boosts shares by £2,000m

By Michael Clark and Frances Williams  
The latest reduction in bank base rates to 15 per cent prompted a sharp increase in share prices on an already confident stock market yesterday.

The FT Index of 30 leading shares leapt back through the 500 barrier to close at 510.9. This was the biggest single day's rise since September 29 when the market rebounded following the previous day's fall.

It was estimated that by the close of business last night an extra £2,377m had been added to market values.

In equities, much of the interest focused on leading industrial shares with double figure rises among many blue chips including ICI, 10p to 288p; Oricover, 20p to 64p; Hawker Siddeley, 10p to 32p; and Becton, 12p to 22p.

Many dealers confessed that the latest surge in buying had caught many of them on the hop so soon after Friday's launch of Cable & Wireless which had tied up a great deal of investors' money.

Stock shortages continue to play a part in many of the rises and tend to give a slightly exaggerated look.

But confidence remains high and presents a startling contrast to the situation in September when the index plummeted to 457.5 amid fears of spiralling interest rates.

Yesterday's rise was not confined to equities. Gilt-edged produced some fairly hefty gains with the Government Broker selling the remaining £700m of 10p Exchange 15 per cent 1985 at 22½. In long-dated stocks prices rose by 1p to 11½ with shorts closing around 11 higher.

The drop in bank base rates and rather disappointing wholesale price figures, took the edge off the pound's early gains in foreign exchange markets. At one stage, it rose to \$1.8900, more than 2 cents up on Friday's close, but it finished London trading yesterday 1½ cents higher at \$1.8925. The index measuring its wider international value improved 0.1 to 69.3 per cent of its average 1975 level.

The dollar was generally weak, following a bigger than expected drop in the latest weekly United States money supply figures and easier short-term interest rates.

More leading American stocks, including Chase Manhattan and Citicorp, cut their prime lending rates to 17 per cent. Eurodollar rates also fell sharply. The dollar closed in London at 2.2090 Deutsche Marks, a drop of 1.30 pence from Friday.

Money market rates eased substantially following the announcement of the cut. The Bank of England provided funds to the market at 14½/16 per cent for 14-day bills, nearly half a percentage point below Friday's dealing level.

The interbank market 7-day money, which affects the cost of a key part of clearing bank's deposits, fell to 15 per cent from 15½ per cent on Friday, while 3-month money dropped nearly 1 percentage point to 14½ per cent from 15½/16 per cent.

## Ranks hit back in dawn raid on British Sugar

By Our Financial Staff  
Ranks Hovis McDougall, the Mothers Pride and Hovis bakery group, yesterday launched a dramatically successful dawn raid on the shares of British Sugar less than a week after the corporation itself had bought a stake in the bakery group through a similar market raid.

The move, the first counter raid of its type against a possible bidder, was regarded by the stock market as a brilliantly executed defensive manoeuvre against British Sugar which last year bought an unwanted takeover bid for 8 & W Berisford, the international commodity trading group which was left holding just over 40 per cent of British Sugar.

Yesterday, the bakery group purchased 6.3 million British Sugar shares at 38½p each, representing 10.5 per cent of the equity. The total cost was £24.3m.

The operation, conducted by Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, and Casanova, the stockbrokers, took 20 minutes to execute against a normal eight minutes for most dawn raids.

In a statement, the bakery group said: "The board believes that it is appropriate in the present circumstances for RHM to take this strategic stake in British Sugar."

When British Sugar bought 14.7 per cent of RHM for £27.6m last Tuesday, Mr John

## Wholesale prices still rising

By Melvyn Westlake  
The prices of goods leaving Britain's factories and workshops recorded a sharp rise last month.

According to Government figures published yesterday, the year-on-year increase in wholesale prices has now reached 11 per cent, and looks set to go on rising for some months to come. It has risen from 10.4 per cent in September and 9.6 per cent in mid-summer.

But the higher prices charged by manufacturing industry are still substantially less than those that manufacturers are having to pay for their materials and fuel. Although such costs did not rise during October, the increase during the last 12 months reached 18 per cent. This compares with a year-on-year rise of 17½ per cent in September.

The main influence on the cost of these inputs continues to be fluctuations in the pound's exchange rate against other currencies and changes in the price of crude oil. In October, the pound rose against the dollar. But this was partially offset by the increase in the dollar price of crude oil.

The effect of all this on individual sectors has been rather mixed. Excluding food, drink and tobacco, manufacturers saw the price of their materials fall by 1 per cent last month.

The food manufacturing industry experienced an increase of 1 per cent during October. The cost of its materials was mainly due to higher prices for bacon, factory pigs and home-landed fish.

The upward pressure on input prices in forcing manufacturers to put up their factory-gate prices. Last month, wholesale prices of manufactured goods rose by 1 per cent, compared with monthly increases of ½ to ¾ of one per cent since the summer.

Raw material costs are responsible for about a fifth of the total costs that industry has to bear.

## State industry chiefs seek salaries review

By Our Industrial Editor  
State industry chairmen are seeking an early meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, to discuss their anxiety over the erosion of top salaries in nationalized industry.

Under the new regime established last year by the Prime Minister for settling the salaries of state industry chairmen and board members, increases are geared to managerial and market conditions. Discussions on the appropriate level of increases were to be settled between the boards and the various sponsoring ministers with the Civil Service.

Until last year, state industry top salaries were subject to review and recommendations by the Top Salaries Review Body under the chairmanship of the Lord Boyle.

Successive governments, however, modified recommended

## Rule waived in BTR bid for Serck

By Margaret Pagano  
The City Takeover Panel is allowing BTR, the engineering group, to waive one of the conditions of its £25m offer for Serck after the bid's reference to the Monopolies Commission.

After weekend talks between all parties, the panel said yesterday that it will permit the unprecedented waiving of Rule 9(1) of the City Code which requires an offer to lapse until the Commission's conclusion is known.

The Panel said that it had made the concession because BTR already has statutory con-

## BUSINESS BRIEFING

Commission does want BTR to diversify they will probably ask them to sell off parts of the company.

BTR has now received acceptance for 90 per cent of Serck's equity. At the extraordinary meeting yesterday afternoon Serck's shareholders, twice as many as in four years by takeovers, which have run into trouble, also approved the capital reorganization plan.

Serck's shares were still suspended last night at 45p but shares in BTR closed up 16p at 34½p on the news.

## Lucas strike crumbling

Union solidarity in the three-week strike at Lucas Aerospace factories in Birmingham appears to be crumbling.

Members of TASS, the white collar section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, ignored official advice and went back to work yesterday. Today members of the Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staffs (APEX) will almost certainly follow their example.

That leaves the two big manual unions—the Transport and General Workers and the AUEW—to continue a strike in which they have only a minority interest. Nearly two-thirds of

## Stock Markets

FT Index 510.9 up 16.4  
FT Gilt 62.89 up 0.80  
FT All Share 306.11 up 6.37  
Bargains 22,571

## Sterling

\$ 1.8925 up 1.50 cents  
Index 89.3 up 0.1  
New York: \$1.8865

## Dollar

Index 106.7 down 0.8  
DM 2.2090 down 130 pts

## Gold

\$ 429.50 up \$1.50  
New York: \$420.60

## Money

3 mth sterling 144-14½  
3 mth Euro \$ 134-13½  
6 mth Euro \$ 131-13½

## PRICE CHANGES

**Rises**  
Aral Food 13p to 15p  
Bett Sugar 40p to 35p  
BTR 16p to 34½p  
Barclays Bk 14p to 44½p  
EICC 14p to 27½p  
OBE 24p to 29p  
Equity & Law 15p to 37½p  
Husky Oil 37p to 61½p  
Lusmo 13p to 48½p  
Lucas Ind 21p to 34½p  
Polly Peck 23p to 38p  
Rural Elect 18p to 41½p  
Unilever 30p to 64½p

## Falls

Amal Metal 45p to 57p  
Barlow Rand 20p to 42p  
Bk of Ireland 10p to 38p  
Brit Invest 20p to 17½p  
Coats Patons 51p to 31p  
Dalgety 39p to 29p  
Chatterfield 50p to 48p  
Gas & Oil Acce 50p to 46p  
Grosvet 50p to 128p  
Rene Mine Prop 50p to 45p  
Tavlor Woodrow 50p to 49p  
TSL Therm Synd 50p to 88p  
Western Mining 7p to 25p

## Credit sales puzzle

There was a big jump in credit sales in September, fuelled by a rise in lending by finance houses. New credit extended was £706m, with the finance houses lending a record £455m. The figures add another puzzle to the interpretation of what is happening to the economy.

Bank lending has been growing fast and most analysts had thought that this was at the expense of the finance houses.

Revised estimates for retail sales in September show that they were slightly down on August.

## Court to rule on secret milk pact

Four dairies operating in the Bristol area are being taken to the Restrictive Practices Court by Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, over a secret seven-month agreement, ended last March, under which shops were supplied only with milk in cartons that carried a 1p price premium compared with bottled milk.

## Boom before the bust

Before the present recession the West Midlands was the most prosperous region in Britain, according to new Inland Revenue figures.

The average (median) income of its taxpayers in 1978-79 was £4,190, compared to £4,140 in the south east, traditionally the most affluent region. Northern Ireland, with £3,510, was the poorest region.

## Telecom's underwater weapon

A naval officer examining Seadog, a submersible under test at British Telecom. It is designed for burying, inspecting and repairing underwater cable to a depth of 300 metres. The unit is remotely controlled from one of British Telecom's cable ships.

## Suez closure

The Suez Canal will be closed to shipping for 34 hours from 14.00 GMT on Wednesday to allow the laying of pipes across the bed of the waterway to irrigate land in Sinai.

The International Monetary Fund is to open talks with Poland today on the country's request for a loan of \$24,000m (£12,765m).

## USM's FIRST BIRTHDAY

The unlisted securities market celebrates its first anniversary today.

In that time, 72 companies have entered the market with more expected before the end of the year. Many companies presently trading on the London Stock Exchange under rule 162 (2a) are seeking quotation. City opinion judges its first year a success, though doubt remains as to whether the USM has fully achieved one of its main aims—provision of finance for new products.

## Fibres slump

Production of man-made fibres was 15 per cent lower in the first nine months of this year than in the same period last year. Deliveries were down 16 per cent, and exports almost 19 per cent.

Sedgwick Group has bought the holding company of Ross Collins, which carries on business as a Lloyd's broker.

## Japanese move to end trade friction

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor  
Efforts to reduce the growing trade imbalance between Britain and Japan are to be made over the next few months through encouragement of greater collaboration between industries of the two countries.

Senior officials of the Department of Industry have been asked by Japanese Government agencies in Britain for advice on seminars with the Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) in planning for the United Kingdom over the next few months.

This approach follows the recent visit to Britain of a high level delegation from the Japanese Federation of Economic Organizations which was despatched to European capitals by the Tokyo Government to counter the growing mood for protectionism in Europe.

Jetro is keen to identify United Kingdom companies interested in some form of twinning with a Japanese company.

The Japanese moves are not likely to lead to any marked reduction in demands from hard-pressed British industries for the Japanese to open up their market more extensively to imports.

Leaders of the Confederation of British Industry have been heading the campaign for the Government to adopt a much tougher approach to Japan's "laser beam" exporting strategy.

But the Japanese have launched a counter-offensive through the Anglo-Japanese Economic Institute underlining the job creation aspects of the Japanese export offensive. The Institute claims that around 30,000 jobs in the United Kingdom are being provided by companies importing Japanese cars.

The Institute's survey was based on returns from companies including Datsun (United Kingdom), the biggest exporter of cars to Britain, which operates 450 dealerships throughout the country. The survey estimated that total employment based on Datsun activities in the United Kingdom including car sales, servicing and repairs operation was between 18,000 and 20,000.

## COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Incorporated in the United Kingdom)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Directors have declared, in respect of the year ending 31st January, 1982, and payable on 9th December, 1981 to Stockholders on the Register at that time, an Interim Dividend of Singapore 4.5 cents per share less Malaysian Income Tax (previous year 4.5 Singapore cents).

NOTE: ALSO GIVEN that the Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 30th November, 1981 to 8th December, 1981 both dates inclusive, for the preparation of dividend warrants.

**INTERIM STATEMENT**

The unaudited results of the Group and of the Company for the periods indicated below were as follows—

	The Group		The Company	
	Six months ended 31 July	Six months ended 31 July	Six months ended 31 July	Six months ended 31 July
	1981	1980	1981	1980
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Turnover	352,700	116,800	—	—
Profit before taxation	11,727	11,876	10,721	9,055
Taxation	(4,952)	(5,746)	(3,459)	(3,115)
Profit after taxation	6,775	6,130	7,262	5,940
Minority interests	(498)	150	—	—
Profit before extraordinary items	6,277	6,280	7,262	5,940
Extraordinary items	622	1,734	(548)	(271)
Profit attributable to stockholders	6,899	8,014	6,716	5,669

The period to 31st July, 1981 included the results of the Food-Land Group which made a satisfactory contribution to profits and largely accounted for the substantial increase in turnover. Profit margins on our manufacturing activities in Singapore and Malaysia were adversely affected as a result of competition and there was an escalation in financing costs during the period. Exchange rate movements also had an adverse effect on the half-year's results.

On the assumption that current conditions remain unchanged, it is unlikely that the profits for the full year will be materially different from the previous year's level.

Singapore: 28th October, 1981

By Order of the Board  
J. D. R. Secretary

## National Westminster Bank Limited

NatWest announces that with effect from Monday, 9th November, 1981, its Base Rate is reduced from 15½% to 15% per annum.

The basic Deposit and Savings Account rates are reduced from 14% to 13% per annum.



## Oil flow recovery saves Nigerian development

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Big cutbacks once feared in Nigeria's fourth development plan, shortly to be announced for 1981-85, are now unlikely to happen because of a recovery in the country's oil production. There was a fall in production earlier this year but this month oil is flowing at the rate of 1.3 million barrels a day with hopes, of reaching 1.5 million barrels by the year's end.

This was reported in London yesterday by a just-retired trade mission led by Mr Peter Rees, Minister of Trade, and Mr Adam Thomson, chairman of British Caledonian Airways.

Infrastructure development involving many big construction projects is expected to be a feature of the new plan, with particular emphasis on agriculture, Mr Rees said. There were proposals for rail, port and power developments and the possibility of developing coal reserves was being considered.

Originally the plan had been made on the basis of Nigeria producing 2 million barrels daily of oil at \$36 a barrel but the latest Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries price move brings that to \$37. Although this saves the structure of the plan it is still possible there might be some repaving, taking some parts of the plan beyond 1985.

During talks in Lagos Mr Rees discussed a number of defence projects. Some he described as imminent although no contracts had been signed.

When Mr Rees told ministers of some British companies' anxieties over prompt payment in Lagos, the Nigerians offered to look into any specific cases where payment was a problem. There were also promises of increased administrative action to curb the growth of trade in counterfeit goods which has been worrying British companies such as Ferodo.

On the six-day trip the trade mission, which included a dozen top businessmen, was urged by the Nigerians to be more aggressive particularly in seeking bigger contracts, Mr Rees said. He took this particularly as a sign that the troubled period in Anglo-Nigerian relations when there were differences over Zimbababwe were now entirely over.

"The Nigerians are to some extent concerned at the imbalance in trade with Britain although we are the largest investor in the country. They are more interested in investment and technology transfer than just straight exports", he said.

Nigerian exports to Britain have declined since the development of North Sea oil although Britain is still the largest single buyer of Nigeria's non-oil products such as cocoa, rubber and tin.

## Fares war causes loss at British Caledonian

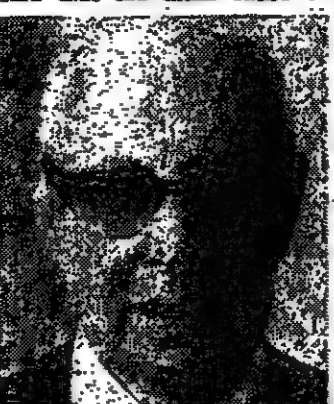
By Michael Bailey

British Caledonian, Britain's leading independent airline, has followed British Airways into deficit as a result of price cutting, particularly on the transatlantic route.

But Sir Peter Masefield, the deputy chairman, said that that would not stop the group introducing an expansion programme in hotels, leisure, and new scheduled routes.

Sir Peter would not disclose the amount of the loss, but it is believed to be less than £5m compared with a £7m profit last year and a £140m loss by British Airways.

Mr Alastair Pugh, the group's managing director said that the main cause of



Sir Peter Masefield: seeking a sensible fares structure

the loss was "revenue dilution" through fares that failed to cover inflated fuel and other costs.

Sir Peter said that the company would be working through the International Air Transport Association to try to achieve a sensible fares structure, and this meant lower fares in Europe and South America and higher fares across the north Atlantic.

Despite its problems, the company which operates 700 flights a week to North and South America, Europe, Africa, and the Far East, increased its passenger traffic last year by 28 per cent and freight by 41 per cent and Sir Peter predicted a bright future.

The company planned new cheap services to West Germany in competition with British Airways and Luftansa, and also to Australia and the United States Midwest. Most of these developments would use the group's commercial and management skills, and other people's money. That was the profitable way ahead in these difficult times.

## Unilever chief calls for technology strategy

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor



Sir David Orr: France had better system

Development of a selective industrial strategy geared to the promotion of high technology ventures was urged on the Government last night by a senior British industrialist.

Sir David Orr, chairman of Unilever, told the Royal Society of Arts that the development of new technologies had to be treated as an opportunity rather than a threat, and that, he said, would require a strategy.

Although the present Government has eschewed Labour's industrial strategy, placing the main emphasis of its approach on the creation and encouragement of an environment in which businesses could flourish, Sir David emphasized the importance which Britain's competitors attach to nurturing the industries of the future.

Delivering the Freeman Wood lecture he said: "The strategy should concentrate on a limited number of areas. Where the market functions adequately, where finance is available and the decisions of individual firms coincide well enough with the public interest, there need be no government interference. This would cover most of the economy."

Stressing the need for cooperation between industry, trades unions and the Government, he said that there had

to be some sort of agreement on goals and a clear sense of direction.

The blueprint, Sir David said, should begin with identification of areas of promise followed by educational reforms to provide the skilled people which the new industries would require. That should be supported by necessary research and development and some system of support for those cases where investment was too big and the risk too great for a single company.

Sir David said that Britain's

industrial strategy should confine itself to the identification of main areas of advance and change, and to deciding which of them the country wished to be among the leaders. Moves made by the Department of Industry in promoting information technology and the creation of the British Technology Group were useful steps, but what was being done was still fragmented and not sufficiently integrated to form a strategy.

France's approach, he suggested, could be used as the model for Britain. Fundamental to the French system was a recognition that individual firms, even individual products were the likely winners and not whole industries.

But Sir David emphasised the role which cooperation between management and workforce must play in the development of any limited industrial strategy, especially in limiting the number of unofficial strikes. He called for full consultation with workers in exchange for the certainty that nobody would strike except as a last resort and suggested that the time was ripe for serious talks between the Confederation of British Industry and the TUC, and between individual companies and their unions.

## IN BRIEF

### Paribas: authorities investigate

Paris, Nov. 9. — Judicial Authorities opened a formal investigation of former Paribas President M. Pierre Moussa, and four colleagues today, in connection with the alleged transfer of 180m Francs (£17.3m) into Switzerland.

M. Moussa was a key figure in a controversy between the Paribas Bank and the government over the financial institution's loss of its Swiss and Belgian subsidiaries last month. He later resigned.

Besides the five bank executives, 35 clients are also being investigated. — Agence France Presse.

### Airline shares sale

□ The Japanese Government is to sell 5 per cent of its holdings in Japan Airlines to help reduce the national debt the Finance Ministry said yesterday. It expects to raise about \$27m through the sale to investors of 2.5 million shares, reducing the government's stake in the airline to about 35 per cent.

### Oil accord scrapped

□ The new Greek Government will not ratify a tentative accord with the Royal Dutch/Shell Group for an oil exploration and development concession in the Thessalonian Gulf of the North Aegean Sea.

### Japan protest

□ Fujitsu has claimed that the rejection of its low bid to supply an advanced communications system to American Telephone & Telegraph has violated an 11-month-old United States-Japan agreement intended to open competition on such contracts to foreign companies.

### Budget deficit

□ France's budget deficit totalled Ffr106,900m at the end of September compared with Ffr50,300m (£4,745m) at the same time last year, the economy ministry said. The shortfall for the whole of the year is estimated at Ffr70,000m.

### Five in steel deal

□ Two West German and five Japanese firms will share a 2,000m kroner (£172m) to deliver 400,000 tonnes of steel tubes to Statpipe, Norwegian state oil company, Statoil said yesterday, the companies are Mannesmann Roehrenwerke, Bergrohr, Nippon Kokan, Mitsubishi, Nippon Steel, Sumitomo and Kawasaki Steel.

## Engineering changes delayed

By Business News Staff

A decision on ceding of the main responsibilities of the Council of Engineering Institutions to the Government's new Engineering Council was probably two years away, Mr Denis Wood, the CEI's executive secretary, said yesterday.

This was because his organization have to see how the new council worked in practice and what its detailed planning was for operations after its first three years.

A CEI decision would then be possible on issues such as

handing over its scheme for registration of individual engineers and transferring the power to award the title of Chartered Engineer.

The new council was unlikely to have set out its by-laws before the end of two years, Mr Wood said: "The two years is simply an estimate of the amount of work that will have to be got through by the new council and is certainly not a question of CEI trying to extend its own life."

## US directors for Midland

Mr Thomas R. Wilcox, chairman of Crocker National Corporation, and Mr John B. M. Place, chairman and chief executive of Crocker National Bank, have joined the board of Midland Bank.

Dr Gerald Owen will join the Burmah group as planning director on January 4.

He will be on the board of Burmah Oil Trading, and a member of the Burmah group management committee.

Mr B. A. Jeffcott becomes works director and Mr W. Horgan technical director of Metering Pumps.

Mr W. H. Whitehouse has been appointed director of

signal and telecommunications engineering at British Rail. He succeeds Mr A. A. Cardani who is retiring.

Mr Raymond B. Haw has joined the board of William Moss Property Development.

Mr Douglas Manson is the new finance director of Fiat Auto (UK).

## The Royal Bank of Scotland

### INTEREST RATES

The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited announces that with effect from 9th November 1981 its Base Rate for lending is being decreased from 15½ per cent per annum to 15 per cent per annum.

As from 9th November 1981 the rate of interest on Investment Accounts will be decreased to 13½ per cent per annum for quarterly paid interest and 13½ per cent per annum for monthly paid interest. The maximum rate of interest allowed on Deposits lodged for a minimum period of seven days or subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal at the London Offices of the Bank will be decreased to 13 per cent per annum.

## ICI talks on property break down

By Baron Phillips

Negotiations between Heron Corporation, the property group, and ICI for the sale of ICI's two office buildings in London have broken down.

Heron is understood to have approached ICI some months ago and made an unsolicited offer of £50m for two of the buildings making up ICI's Millbank centre on the Thames Embankment. The two buildings are not now occupied by the chemicals group.

No official reason has been given for the breakdown of discussions.

Known as Thames House North and Thames House South the two blocks were built in the early 1930s but ICI has owned them only since 1979 when it bought the freehold interest from the Prudential.

Tenants of the blocks include the Departments of the Environment and Energy, and National Westminster. Although ICI's advisors, King & Company, have not released details of the deal, it is believed the initial yield on the deal would have been about 5 per cent.

If the deal had been successful, it would have represented one of the largest property transactions concluded this year.

## QUALITY FIRST KEEPS BRYANT BUOYANT

The best in home building, and in commercial and industrial investments, creates very creditable profits.



In the face of daunting interest rates, static home prices and low business confidence, Bryant Holdings declares a further record year. On a turnover of £85m, pre-tax profits were £8.6m compared with £6.5m last year excluding the exceptional write-back, an increase of 32%.

TURNOVER	PRE-TAX PROFIT	DIVIDEND INCREASE	INCREASE IN ASSETS PER SHARE
£85m	£8.6m	34%	36p

Our keynote throughout has been quality. Buyers still want well-built and attractive homes.

Our industrial and commercial developments, in prime positions and soundly planned, continue to let.

By retaining permanent equity holdings in these properties and with the benefit of rent reviews quality earnings have improved by 37%.

Our construction contracts made a satisfactory profit.

Expansion of our activities in the South of England is progressing.

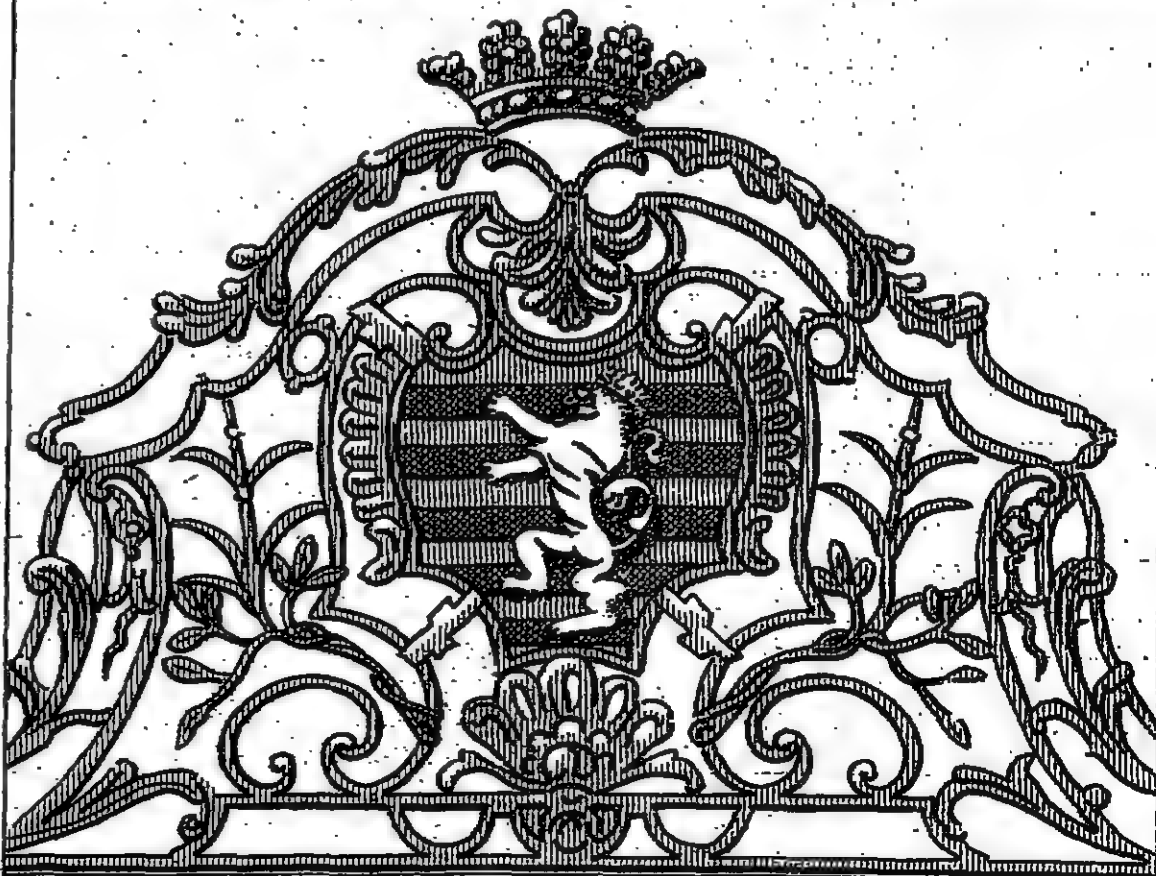
We've had a very good start to the new financial year.

Please write to, or telephone the Secretary for copies of the Report & Accounts.

## Bryant Holdings plc

CRANMORE BOULEVARD, SOLIHULL, WEST MIDLANDS, B90 4SD. 021-704 5111

## Sanpaolo-Lariano Group: as of today in Luxembourg, too.



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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Ranks Hovis bites back

It is check but not quite mate for British Sugar Corporation, BSC, attempting to avoid the predatory advances of S & W Berisford, took nearly 15 per cent of Ranks Hovis McDougall in a dawn raid last week and made strong noises about diversifying. But it can hardly have expected the somnolent RHM to play it at its own game.

The mathematics of the situation make it virtually impossible now for BSC to go ahead with its plans for acquiring RHM. Berisford has just over 40 per cent of BSC and the dawn raid yielded RHM another 10.5 per cent. If BSC is to take over RHM, it has to call a shareholders' meeting to gain their approval. With 51 per cent of its shares in unfriendly hands, BSC is hardly likely to attempt that road.

RHM's purchase can probably be justified as a useful investment. BSC is about to announce a set of profit figures which are expected to be good, along with a dividend increase, also anticipated to be attractive — they are and were destined to be strong shots across Berisford's bows.

There are plenty of permutations in the present complex situation. Doubtless, talks are taking place between Berisford and RHM, although it is certain that no question of collusion could have been allowed to surface for that would really have upset the chess board. As for the talks it is difficult to see how BSC can be left out, if only on the grounds of diplomacy.

But at the end of the day, the whole operation will leave fewer food companies should RHM and Berisford reach an agreement by early next July at the earliest when Berisford is allowed to renew its attack on BSC. RHM and its advisers win all sorts of plaudits for a brilliant move, but competition is the loser.

### Base rates

### A cautious adjustment

The trend in the United States remains the main influence on domestic rates and the recent news from across the Atlantic, coming on top of last week's easing in short-term money rates, was enough to ensure yesterday's ½ point cut to 15 per cent in base rates by the clearing banks.

The sharp rise in unemployment in the United States has strengthened opinion that the recession there is deepening and the recent good money supply figures gave a further boost to the downward trend which saw more cuts in prime rates in the United States yesterday from 17½ to 17 per cent.

Accordingly, when National Westminster led off yesterday morning with its cut in base rate, money market rates fell into line with the Bank of England, for instance, dealing in the market yesterday in the 14½-14¾ per cent range, compared with 15-15½ per cent on Friday; there is still an air of caution, however, about what happens next.

The trend in the United States will be one crucial determinant, while the domestic influences will include today's provisional money supply figures where opinions over the likely increase are divided and distortions caused by back tax will continue to cloud their significance.

Yesterday's sell-off of the £1,000m tap stock, where the sale is due on Friday, could also make for some tightness in the money markets later in the week.

For the moment, then, most are drawing no more than mild encouragement from yesterday's adjustments and, in the short-term anyway, rates look like stabilising around current levels.

### Lucas

### Clearing the decks

Lucas seems to be a paradigm of all that the stock market expects of British industry. In the year to July, pretax profits of £41m gave way to losses of £21.4m, but sales abroad continued to go ahead despite a setback at home. The group has commendably charged £26.4m of redundancy and closure costs above

the line, and possibly even more commendably, the group (again) spent around £114m on new plant, some of which was charged to the revenue account. So the year's loss was no worse than feared and, even on Lucas' conservative accounting, it went into pretax profits of nearly £4m in the second six months — after redundancy and closure costs of £19.2m, against only £7.2m in the first half year. The other big blow besides reorganization costs to earnings power was an increase in interest payable from £16.3m to £26.4m. Even so, the financial year finished with borrowings comfortably at 42 per cent of shareholders' funds. The maintained dividend signals that the worst is over, and that a past conservatism in distribution policy now reaps its reward.

The shares duly jumped 24p to 197½ yesterday, but the yield is still nearly 8 per cent on a dividend that could rise this year as profits return. These given a fair wind could easily be £45m to £50m. If so, the yield is attractive against others in the field. There are reservations about how quickly the group will escape from world recession, but it talks confidently about new factories both here and in the United States, and spending on research and development, up from £55m to £65m in the past year, should keep it abreast of foreign rivals.



Mr Godfrey Messervy, chairman of Lucas

Third-quarter results from Hoover show why the hard-hit domestic appliances group finally had to go in for extensive surgery last month. Even without the heavy burden of redundancy costs, trading losses have mushroomed from £1.2m and £1.7m in the first two quarters to £4.2m in the July-September period. Including £4m for redundancies, taking the total so far this year to £7.1m, third-quarter pre-tax losses are £6.9m pushing up the deficit at the nine-month stage to £13m — and that after a £1.2m currency windfall — compared with losses of £156,000 at the same time last year.

With probably at least another £5m in redundancies from Merthyr Tydfil and Cambuslang to come in the final quarter, and the £1.2m closure hitting the figures in 1982, there is clearly going to be no early respite for the group. Trading continues to provide Hoover with precious little encouragement. The overall washing machine and vacuum cleaner markets are likely to be a tenth lower in volume terms this year, while Hoover's loss of market share to cheap imports has meant a 15 per cent cut in its production over the past year.

Faced with that sort of over-capacity it is little wonder that Hoover has been chalking up heavy losses. The key now in the group's strategy is that the cut in the workforce and the concentration of manufacturing facilities into a smaller number of units will bring down costs drastically and allow the group to inch into the black at least on trading next year. There may also be some help on the demand front as well if EEC moves to block-off cheap Eastern European imports are successful.

On the view that this is Hoover's final chance, the stockmarket appears to be giving it the benefit of the doubt and the "A" shares edged up 1p to 90p despite the worse-than-expected results yesterday. Even without a dividend this year and little chance of rebuilding shareholders' funds for a couple of years, the market capitalization of just over £13m is well cushioned by book assets of more than five times that figure; the sale of the Persvale factory will show just what value those assets are on the open market.

Washington  
The United States economy is in a recession. Even President Reagan himself has now admitted it. Friday's announcement of a sharp jump in unemployment to 8 per cent of the workforce was just the latest in a series of official statements that confirm the bad news.

However, Mr Reagan has so far insisted that the recession will be only a mild one. Mr Donald Regan, his Treasury Secretary, predicted recently that its end will be "certain and swift" with a strong recovery under way by next spring.

But many private economists, and some in the Administration, are far less sanguine.

Mr George Perry, an economist at the Brookings Institution, Washington, has forecast that gross national product will continue to fall in real terms throughout the next nine months. This would make the present recession almost as long, although probably not as steep, as the 1974-75 slump, which was far worse than any other postwar American recession.

Just a few weeks ago, one Administration economist said Mr Perry's projection was ridiculous. But officials under David Stockman's Office of Management and Budget have now produced a preliminary, internal forecast for the economy that rivals Brookings in gloominess.

It shows the recession, which probably began last spring, worsening significantly in the present three months and continuing well into next year. Real GNP could fall at an annual rate of 4 per cent this quarter, and shrink further in the next months of 1982. Moreover, despite the slowdown, interest rates are expected to stay relatively high.

It was high interest rates which precipitated the recession this year. The Federal Reserve, trying to fight inflation with tight money, has



Opposing views on prospects for the American economy: on the left, Donald Regan, Treasury Secretary, who is optimistic and (right) David Stockman of the Office of Management and Budget whose forecast is gloomy.



of next year will be worrying, anxiously about mid-term congressional elections in November 1982.

President Carter's former economic adviser Mr Charles Schultze has predicted that as long as the Federal Reserve keeps its anti-inflationary money policy intact, economic growth will be only sluggish. Any upswing in the economy will lead swiftly to a rise in interest rates and be choked off by a shortage of credit, he argues.

That would mark an important change for the American economy. Although the 1970's were disappointing years here, as elsewhere, America still managed to pull decisively out of the mid-seventies recession, and to create enough jobs to absorb much of the baby boom bulge in the labour force. Unlike Britain, the American private sector typically recovers quickly from recession.

For two reasons money policy is the usual tool for fine tuning the economy. First, the public sector is so much smaller than in Britain that government action on spending and taxes impinges much less on the economy. Secondly, policy-making is so slow, with a lag of about a year between budget proposals and their enactment, that they cannot react to economic events.

But while monetary policy in the past has let the economy pick up swiftly from recession, the signs are that this time it will not. Few people expect a long and deep slump here like the one in Britain. But many believe that even if Mr Reagan's budget policy does swing towards expansion in the middle of next year, it will meet head-on with Mr Volcker's tight money policy.

The resulting surge in interest rates would both slow recovery and skew whatever growth there is away from interest rate sensitive private investment, damaging future American growth prospects.

## Retiring early — to start another job

Ann McGoldrick and Cary L. Cooper

Early retirement does not necessarily mean rest and relaxation, putting one's feet up, more time to watch television and read the newspapers. One of the surprising findings of a survey carried out recently by the Department of Management Sciences at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology is that 40 per cent of those who had retired early had, in fact, worked again in some form of paid employment.

Since a further 17 per cent of the sample were still within a year of taking their early retirement and were generally eligible for early retirement benefit, it is likely that this percentage would in time be even higher.

The research involved a survey by questionnaire of 1,200 early retired men, aged between 50 and 64 at the time of retirement, and 120 interviews with 120. Many were volunteers for early retirement, but others had to retire early because of staffing reductions and closures.

The majority had been generously treated financially by their former companies, with immediate full or adjusted pension benefits and/or severance payments and "golden handshakes".

But the questionnaire returns reveal that 38 per cent of the 1,200 early "retirees" had intended to work again when they retired early, and a further 15 per cent had been unsure, but believed that it was possible that they would return to the labour market in some way.

The main reasons they gave were financial — to "top-up" pensions, to fill in between early retirement and receipt of the state retirement pension or to offset the effects of inflation on pension benefits and savings.

For these reasons some who had not initially intended to work again found them-

selves forced to seek further employment. Many such were among the least satisfied by their change of life-style.

Like I am inhibited entirely by lack of cash, said one person interviewed. "I would dearly love to be fully retired, so the wife and I could just travel to see our daughters when the fancy took us, and stay with them as long as we and they could. I am now committed to Monday to Friday employment again in order to survive — and for a pittance."

But there are many other reasons for going back to work: to continue the interest and stimulus of work; the companionship of colleagues; maintenance of a routine; keeping one's self-respect; and not being old enough to retire completely. Of the sample of 1,200, 22.8 per cent had full-time jobs, 14.6 per cent did part-time work, 6.2 per cent were on occasional work, 5.3 per cent were self-employed and 7.5 per cent did odd jobs and other paid work.

Some of the 273 in full time employment had taken jobs similar to those from which they had retired and were significantly better off drawing a new salary and at the time receiving pension benefits from their former company, often with the additional security of their severance payment.

Another group sought the opportunity to take an "easier" job, work with less stress or of a less demanding kind. While they might not be paid as well as in their previous employment, their early retirement benefits bridged the gap and made up for loss of salary.

Others took jobs with shorter or more flexible hours, "toning down" and "phasing" themselves into retirement proper.

A smaller number of retirees (about 5.3 per cent of the 1,200) were able to start a

new business of their own, sometimes pooling their financial benefits from early retirement. A group of accountants, for example, used their severance payments to buy premises for their own small firm, working together more flexibly, with shorter hours and more holidays.

Not all retirees are able to pursue such adventurous projects. Many of those working had settled for the more traditional types of employment for retired people — part-time shop work, cleaning, sales work and so on. They were frequently satisfied with their new jobs and many had expected to move down to a lower level of employment.

The chief problem they reported had been the attitude of employers and employment agencies to their age. Another difficulty encountered was the effect of former qualifications and they frequently complained of the insufficiency of job centres and government agencies to assist them in their search. One retiree remarked: "The Department of Education organization is not designed to help. They recorded my 'previous' in obvious disbelief as a stray dog home might if asked to accept a straffe."

Those who had intended to work again or who were hard-pressed financially to remain in the labour force could not find suitable jobs were obviously dissatisfied with their experience of early retirement and tended to regret their decision to leave if it was a voluntary one.

In spite of such problems, many of those who wanted to work again were generally determined not to let age or prejudices stand in their way.

One interviewee summed up his views on the matter: "Because of my terribly advanced age (52 years), I cannot get a situation financially equable with my abilities, so I am working for less money than I deserve. I shall carry on working, however, until I reach the inevitable physical failure of my machinery and I shall contribute a great deal to the world!"

Ann McGoldrick is a Research Fellow and Cary L. Cooper is Professor of Organizational Psychology and Head of the Department of Management Sciences, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

## Williams & Glyn's

### Interest Rate Changes

Williams & Glyn's Bank announces that with effect from 9th November 1981 its Base Rate for advances is reduced from 15½% to 15% per annum

Interest on deposits at 7 days' notice is reduced from 13¾% to 13% per annum.

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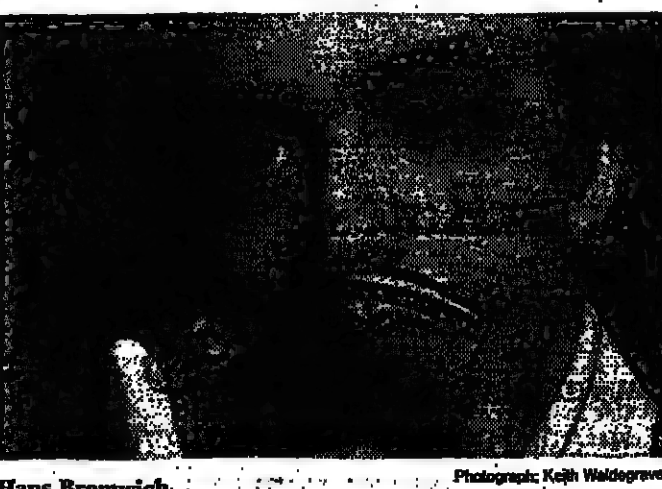
## Business Diary: Howard Johnson's Hostage to Fortune

Imperial group, which took over that American institution Howard Johnson, in June 1980, announced yesterday that the eponymous head of the hotel and restaurant chain is bowing out. Howard Johnson, 49, whose father Howard Johnson senior built up the group from humble beginnings in an ice cream parlour in 1925 is leaving; it's said to take care of his family interests and other interests outside the company.

His successor will be another American, Michael Hostage, 48 who takes over at "Ho Jo" from IIT Continental Baking Company where he was president and chief executive. At Ho Jo, Im-

perial's first year of ownership has been blessed with the best of fortune. The group suffered a net loss of £10m in the six months to last April. But new man Hostage, who's grandfather immigrated from Chester to the United States in the last century, takes over Ho Jo's 500 lodges, motels, restaurants, and 1,000 restaurants at a time when Imperial is intending to pour millions into the chain to expand its activities.

Johnson, who remains president, chairman and chief executive until January, 1982, will be cashing in his chips for a sum widely believed to be in the region of \$80m. Here is one of those jokes that draw protests from Irish readers, having been told me by yet other Irish readers: an Englishman, an Irishman and a Scotsman are stranded on a desert island and find a bottle at the water's edge; they open it and release a genie who in gratitude offers them one wish each. Says the Englishman: "I wish I was having a drink with the crowd at the Dog and Duck" (whoosh, he's gone). The Scotsman says: "I wish I was in Sauchiehall Street on a Saturday night" (whoosh). The Irishman pauses and says: "I wish I had my friends back."



Michael Hostage

### Pen name

Jacketless gentlemen who have ever been jabbed from behind by a rigid ballpoint pen in their back trouser pocket will welcome the new Flexipen.

Hans Bromwich came up with the Flexipen in 1975 as his final year project at the Royal College of Art, where he was taking a master's degree in industrial design. It was aimed, he said, at today's young people who do not like jackets and therefore need a pen to bend with their trouser pockets.

Photograph: Keith Waldgrave

Last month Hans touted his Flexipen around the London stores, and he says, "we're getting an amazing response. Our initial quantity was 10,000 but we've already ordered components to make another 20,000."

Heals, Paper Chase and the General Trading Company are amongst the well-known shops that snapped up the Flexipen. Its recommended retail price is 99p.

He expects imitations to be on the market within six months if it succeeds.

### Toulouse to lose

When the chips are down, what chance has a wine capital like Bordeaux of competing with a white-hot technology centre like Toulouse for the privilege of becoming the university computer centre for south-west France.

A big aviation and electronic city, Toulouse has 3,000 students of computing compared with only 170 in Bordeaux, and at least 5,000 potential users among universities, research institutes and industrial companies compared with only 1,500 in Bordeaux.

Yet last November Giscard d'Estaing ignored the recommendations of the committee for data processing in universities and the views of the Midi-Pyrenees regional council and decided that Bordeaux should be given the giant DPS 8-80 main frame computer manufactured by the French company CII-Honeywell Bull.

It is not clear whether Giscard merely wanted to strengthen the less industrialized of the two rival cities or whether politics played a role in his choice.

One of the first decisions taken by France's new education minister Alain Savary was to reopen the case. He

justified this by the fact that the former government had not taken into account the recommendations of the committee for data processing in universities. And now it has just been announced that Toulouse rather than Bordeaux will be the regional centre alongside those of Grenoble and Rennes.

The man to receive the bad news was the rector of the Bordeaux academy, Jean-Claude Martin who was only recently president of the scientific university at Toulouse where the computer will now be housed. The man who gave the news, Savary, just happens to have been the President of the Midi-Pyrenees regional council when it opposed the move to Bordeaux in the first place. Martin, who has now lost the chance of running the centre on two occasions, has received assurance that the data processing facilities in Bordeaux will nevertheless be strengthened.

Reader R. Goddard of Coulsdon, Surrey, reports seeing a sale of books at the St. Paul's Library off Fleet Street. One volume entitled "Connoisseurs" and another, a novel, called "Without the Option".

Ross Davies



## FINANCIAL NEWS

## Stock markets

## Base rate cuts promote rally

The new account opened in a lively mood yesterday, excited by news of another 1 per cent cut in bank base rates to 15 per cent.

This latest flurry of buying added £2,377m to stock market values with much of the attention focused on blue chips and bid situations. The FT Index, despite the weight of ex-dividend situations, reflected the continuing confidence and after opening 4.6 higher closed at the top of the day with a rise of 16.4 at 510.9.

Sentiment had already been enhanced by the decision of the BP tanker drivers not to strike and was further reinforced by the better than expected full-year performance from Lucas Industries. Signs of a second half recovery and the maintained dividend put 24p on the price at 197p.

Glits, too, shared in the rise with the cheaper money prospect of propping up many foreign investors. One consequence of this was that the long tap Exchequer 15 per cent 1977 was quickly exhausted at £23 with around £700m of stock being mopped up. However, with the remaining call of £702 expected on Friday, jobbers are preparing for some profit taking.

Elsewhere in long prices closed with gains of about £14 while at the shorter end the rise was limited to £1. Blue chips displayed many double figure gains. ICI rose 10p to 286p, Beecham 12p to 224p, Unilever 20p to 643p, Fisons 8p to 143p, Blue Circle 15p to 474p, BOC International 10p to 155p, John Brown 4p to

78p, GKN 11p to 161p and Tube 10p to 106p. Meanwhile, in ex div form P & O D'Ad treated 8p to 128p, as Glaxo rose 8p to 430p, Cadbury Schweppes 2p to 87p, Dunlop 1p to 53p and Hawker Siddeley 10p to 326p.

On the bid front Banks' Hovis McDougall's takeover technique left most of the market gasping in amazement. After being the subject of a dawn raid by British Sugar last week the group decided to launch its own dawn raid on British Sugar this week. Yesterday it picked up 10.5 per cent of the equity with its brokers Cazenove coming into the market to bid for 6.3m shares at 385p. RHM lost 3p at 651p, but British Sugar leapt 40p to close at 356p. S & W Berisford, with a 40 per cent stake in British Sugar, improved 9p to 114p. In the meantime, Tate & Lyle rose 8p to 178p.

with AE Foods, reporting to tomorrow, 12p stronger at 159p. Shares of Serck were suspended at 45p as the Takeover Panel decided whether the BTR bid should lapse after last week's announcement that

that it had completed its purchases. Last week Preussag said it would not now be making a minority bid.

With figures due out today Smiths Industries rose 7p to 335p, Whitbread 6p to 152p, and Kwik-Fit 4p to 66p.

Equity turnover on November 6 was £220.514m (23,460 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were Plessey, British Sugar, Rank Hovis, S & W Berisford, Lucas, B&A, Unilever, Glaxo Holdings, Midland Bank, Sun Life, GEC, Woolworth, Lloyds Bank, Thomas Tilling, P & O D'Ad and Shell.

Traded Options: Total contracts were 1,305 of which Lloyds accounted for 182.

Traditional options saw calls in Woolworth on 51p, Trident TV 'A' on 7p, and KCA Int on 15p.

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
int or fin	£m	£m	per share	peace	date	total
C. H. Beazer (P)	22,925.5	3,482.36	—	4.5(14)	4/1	7(6.2)
Cullen's Stores (P)	—	0.067(0.18)	—	0.7(0.7)	11/12	—
Drayton Cons Tst (P)	—	4.8(4.54)	—	5.9(5.6)	11/12	7.9(7.6)
Electrocomponents (P)	35,931.13	7,046.84	3.67(3.59)	0.8(0.8)	4/1	—
Falmer (P)	1,511(1.41)	0.5(0.48)	—	1.15(1.05)	12/1	—
Hoover (9 months)	146(151)	13(10.5)	—	—	—	—
Lucas Inds (P)	1,186(1.195)	217(40.9)	367(29.2)	8.4(8.4)	—	11(11)
L. & N. Indust (P)	19,522.78	1,051(1.82)	3.8(6.5)	2.9(2.9)	22/1	—
McIntyre Trols (P)	18,212(20.6)	0.54(0.48)	—	—	—	—
Murray Clydesdale (P)	—	2.61(2.51)	1.74(1.71)	1.2(1.13)	13/1	1.73(1.55)
Outch Int (P)	—	1.46(1.43)	1.34(1.33)	0.7(0.7)	16/12	—
RIT Ltd (P)	—	—	—	3.5(3)	—	—
Scott Nat Trust (P)	—	3.85(3.66)	7.57(7.55)	4.6(4.2)	17/12	6.8(6.3)
Secombe Marshall (P)	—	0.19(0.034)	—	—	—	—
Wetters Bros (P)	5.52(5.71)	—	—	—	—	—
Young Cos Int (P)	—	0.29(0.31)	—	2.2(2.2)	31/12	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pound per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. \*adjusted for scrip issue. †loss.

## Beazer up slightly but outlook uncertain

By Our Financial Staff

C. H. Beazer, the Bath property and construction group, is increasing its full-year dividend by 13 per cent after a steady year that saw increased trading and pretax profits. But the group is cautious about the prospects for the current year, in which it has already acquired the Exeter-based brickmaker, Wandrick Products.

Pretax profits for the 12 months to end-June rose by 9 per cent to £3,482m on turnover 22,925m, up from £2,925m. Trading profit was 25 per cent higher at £3,066m. A final dividend of 6.1p gross takes the payout for the year to 10p gross, against 8.56p.

Mr Brian Beazer, managing director, says it is difficult to be positive about prospects. Although the first quarter's trading was encouraging, he said, the housing market since then has shown adverse trends. "The season could be more fundamental. It would be imprudent to comment on the full year," he said, given the uncertainties about the economy.

Mr Beazer added that Westwick Products, whose takeover was completed after the end of the financial year, was being incorporated into the company's structure and should be of benefit in the medium term.

## Acquisition cleared

The acquisition by Rohm and Haas of certain assets of the Borg Warner Corp. is not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

## Electrocomponents slows as margins tighten

By Margaret Fagan

Electrocomponents' rapid growth pattern of recent years is slowing but the group still managed better profits in the six months to September, despite increasing pressure on margins.

Pretax profits were limited to a 2.9 per cent rise at £7,046m, compared with £6,840m last time, which represented a 20 per cent profit increase. Group sales improved by 15.5 per cent to £35,931m in the period, which was stimulated by a two-tier price structure in one of its main trading companies.

Shareholders receive a half-time dividend of 1.2p gross, which is unchanged after adjusting for the scrip issue in September, which brought the group's share price down from the previous high rating to 180p. Disappointed by the news, the shares slipped 2p to 118p.

Over the last four years, Electrocomponents has recorded average growth of some 35 per cent compound, but this

pattern has been dented by the recession. However, the group, one of the UK's leading electronic component distributors, is partly shielded from the more fierce price-cutting by its range of passive components and own-brand products.

But during the period, a two-tier price structure was introduced by its main distribution company RS Components, which meant a drop in gross margins. It did help, however, to stimulate sales to customers mainly involved in research and development rather than production. Volume growth of some 9 per cent was recorded against the preceding half-year. RS accounts for some three-quarters of sales and profits.

Mr Ronald Marler, the chairman, says that profit margins were again under pressure because of higher costs from local and central government services, but that suppliers' prices were kept below the rate of inflation.

His forecast for the second half is that sales will continue to expand but margins and profit growth will be further depressed. So it is unlikely the group's record profits of £14.5m last year will be matched.

Results also include profits from the sale of freehold property in Reading after the closure last year of Reading Windings, the transformer company. Profits from its Irish subsidiary are also shown.

A profits and sales comparison reveals a 19.6 per cent increase, against 22 per cent last time.

After tax of £3,35m, the extraordinary credit of £281,000 and a minority interest of £14,900, the group's attributable profits are £3,95m. Earnings per share are 3.67p, against 3.59p, adjusted for the scrip issue. Mr Marler adds that all subsidiaries continue to develop their product ranges, particularly in areas of new technology.

## Payout held after fall at LMI

By Drew Johnston

Performance for the half year at engineering group London and Midland Industrial was disappointing, but acceptable compared with other results in the sector, Mr C M Biddow, the chairman, said yesterday.

LMI's pretax profit for the six months to September 30 was £1,051m, down from £1,186m in the half-year last year. "The performance was achieved in the most difficult economic conditions, far worse than had previously been anticipated anywhere," Mr Biddow said.

Turnover in the half was down from £22.8m to £19.6m, but the dividend has been maintained at 4.14p gross. Profit attributable to shareholders was down to £418,080 from £748,000.

Mr Biddow said that LMI's 21 separate units for the most part were profitable, so it was difficult to criticise the overall performance. There had been no colossal losses but continuing exercises were continuing throughout the group.

Losses have continued at Arston Alloys, the group's die casting company, through the lack of any recovery in the market. Doran Engineering has been similarly troubled. Poor retail activity has also severely affected the normal trading pattern of trays and trolleys subsidiary Woodmet.

But on the brighter side, other subsidiaries, such as builders Compton, have seen steady progress.

LMI is also looking for expansion in other specialist engineering activities. "Ideally we are on the lookout for a United Kingdom-based engineering company with a strong presence in the United States," Mr Biddow said yesterday. The group has also moved into the energy sector with an investment in Thames Oil and Gas, a company formed to participate in oil and gas exploration and production in North America.

## WHOLESALE PRICES

Indices (1975=100) of wholesale prices of manufactured goods, and basic materials and fuels purchased by manufacturing industry, published by the Department of Industry.

	Output prices (thous sales)	Prices of materials and fuels	% change in previous 6 months	% change in previous 12 months
	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
1981				
Jan	208.9	25.7	7.2	8.1
Feb	210.1	25.7	4.5	12.8
Mar	215.1	27.3	8.5	16.0
Apr	216.0	28.3	12.5	20.4
May	217.2	28.3	12.8	22.8
Jun	221.1	28.9	14.3	24.7
Jul	222.2	29.0	12.7	25.9
Aug	225.9	29.5	9.7	19.2
Sep	227.9	29.8	8.5	14.5

## THE HONGKONG BANK GROUP

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10th November, 1981

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Base Rate... 15% (Previously 15%)

Deposit Rate (basic) 13% (Previously 14%)

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

The British Bank of the Middle East

Mercantile Bank Limited

Antony Gibbs & Sons, Ltd.

## Illingworth names new directors

While Illingworth Morris, the Bradford-based textile group, yesterday attempted to return to normality with the appointment of three directors, its former director, Mrs Pamela Mason, continues with her threat of legal action against the company.

The three directors appointed yesterday were Mr Geoffrey P. Kitchen, who will represent Illingworth Morris subsidiary Woolcombers group, on the parent company board, as an executive capacity, Mr Jack H. Nunnery and Sir Russell Sanderson, both as non-executive directors. Mr Nunnery is a regional director of Lloyds Bank and Sir Russell Sanderson is a non-executive director of Eigin-based James Johnston.

Mrs Mason, a Los Angeles chatshow hostess and former wife of actor James Mason, said last week she intends to question the authority of the vote which removed her and her son Morgan Mason from the board. Mrs Mason alleges that the vote cannot be final since the Illingworth Morris board voted a 91 per cent shareholding in the company-owned by one of its subsidiaries.

The Illingworth Morris directors say the shareholding, which was crucial in securing removal of the two Masons from the board, was voted after obtaining counsel's advice.

But solicitors acting on behalf of Mrs Mason have pointed to an affidavit made by Mr Donald Hanson, the chairman, dated September 18 which states that the votes attached to the subsidiaries are not exercised at general meetings.

## Town Centre ahead of forecasts at £1.7m

By Our Financial Staff

The fast-growing Leeds-based property developer Town Centre Securities has produced better-than-expected pretax profits for the year to end-June at £1.7m, up 48 per cent on the previous year, and has raised its dividend. But the company has given warning of the effect recession is now having on the industry.

Turnover rose by 2.6 per cent to £4.6m. The figures include £187,000 in back rent after the settlement of a long-delayed rent review at a Morrison supermarket in the Merriam Centre in Leeds, which went to the High Court.

The dividend is 143p gross, up from 119p a year earlier, adjusted for a one-for-five scrip issue. Earnings per share were 1.72p, up from 0.87p.

Mr Arnold Ziff, the chairman, said that recession was making new lettings more difficult to achieve especially large areas of office space to single users. The Wade House office block in the Merriam Centre is still empty, as is the company's Barbury office-block. However, the value of centrally situated office blocks and retail premises seemed to go on increasing without abatement, he said.

In a further rationalization of Anglo-American Corporation's industrial interests in South Africa, the Anglo American Industrial Corporation (Amic) is to merge with De Beers Industrial Corporation (Debiacor).

Amic, which now has about a 26 per cent holding in Debiacor, will make it a wholly owned subsidiary through a share-swap. The net asset value of the combined company will be £1,900m (£1,050m).

A spokesman for Amic said the merger would broaden the overall base of the group.

Amic controls leading South African companies in the steel, mining, paper, engineering and electronics industries. Debiacor is primarily a financial holding company with major interests in the chemical sector.

## ACC stake held

The direct Spanish Telegraph Co has sold its 5.3 per cent stake in the non-voting "A" shares of Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corp, into which Mr Robert Holmes A'Court has been buying recently. The company retains its 8 per cent holding of ordinary ACC shares, which have voting rights.

## Cullen's Stores

After a big fall in profits in 1980-81—when the total dividend was cut—Cullen's Stores has now fallen into deficit for the first half of this year. In the first half of August 31, Cullen's made a pretax loss of £68,000 against a pretax profit of £184,000 last time. However, there is a tax credit of £57,000 this year, compared with a charge of £29,000 in the preceding year. Shareholders collect an unchanged ordinary half-time dividend of 1p a share gross.

## Pritchard Services

The £14m acquisition of National Medical Consultants, the American health-care group, by Pritchard Services group, the London-based industrial cleaners, has been held up by United States antitrust regulations. Mr Peter Pritchard, chairman and chief executive, said he expected a three-week delay, but was confident that all the conditions of the takeover would be met by the specified date for completion, December 31.

## Barclays Bank Interest Rates.

## BASE RATE.

Barclays Bank Limited and Barclays Bank International Limited announce that with effect from the close of business on 9th November, 1981, their Base Rate was decreased from 15½% to 15% per annum.

This new rate applies also to Barclays Bank Trust Company Limited.

## RATES FOR SAVERS.

Bonus Savings and Payplan Accounts. Interest paid was decreased from 15½% to 15% per annum.

Ordinary Deposit Accounts. Interest paid was decreased from 14½% to 13% per annum.



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## Lloyds Bank Interest Rates

Lloyds Bank Limited has reduced its Base Rate from 15.5% to 15% p.a. with effect from Monday, 9th November 1981.

The rate of interest on 7-day notice Deposit Accounts and Savings Bank Accounts is reduced from 13.5% to 13% p.a. The change in Base Rate and Deposit Account interest will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branches of

Lloyds Bank International Limited  
The National Bank of New Zealand Limited

Lloyds Bank Limited, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS.

## Midland Bank Base Rate

Midland Bank Limited announces that with effect from Tuesday 10th November 1981 its Base Rate has been reduced by ½% to 15% per annum.

Deposit Accounts. Interest paid on accounts held at branches and subject to 7 days' notice of withdrawal has been reduced by ½% to 13% per annum. Interest on these accounts is paid quarterly making our basic rate of 13% effectively 13.6% per annum. Abatement allowance on ledger credit balances for current accounts which are subject to the standard personal current account tariff and do not qualify for free terms will be 9% per annum.



Midland Bank



## Coutts &amp; Co

Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is reduced from 15½% to 15% per annum with effect from the 9th November 1981 until further notice.

The Deposit Rate on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal is reduced from 14% to 13% per annum.















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# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV/LONDON	Radio 4	Radio 3	Radio 2
<p>9.05 For Schools. College News in German. 9.35 The people and provinces of Spain. 9.35 Spanish Language. 10.10 Serial: Dark Towers. 10.35 The Military Machine. 11.00 The Body. Feet. 11.35 Cloth weaving. 12.05 Motorcycles. 12.30 News Afternoon with Richard Whitmore and Maura Stuart. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One including an interview with somebody who was once in the headlines. 1.45 Over the Moon. A Sea-Save programme for the very young. 2.00 You and Me introduced by Stephen Tate (2). 2.14 For Schools. College: Spanish language. 2.30 English literature. 3.00 Closedown. 3.25 D. D. A quiz in Welsh about a journey through Wales. 3.53 Regional news.</p>	<p>11.00 Play School. For the under fives presented by Sheelagh Gilbey and Don Spencer. 11.25 Closedown.</p>	<p>9.35 For Schools: Marriage. 9.53 Things and places that have inspired writer Alan Garner. 10.15 Watch Your Language. 10.35 Play: The Protectors. 11.00 Maths for seven to nine-year-olds. 11.25 Playground games. 11.30 A trip to Angers in the Loire Valley. 12.00 Rod, Jane and Freddy. 12.10 Pippins. 12.30 The Sullivan. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News. 1.30 The Circle Complex. Episode five and Cat Devlin is framed for the murder of Tom Foreman (2). 2.00 After Noon Plus. Mavis Nicholson talks to actor Edward Fox. 2.45 Play: Family by Alan Huckle. A ruthless young millionaire tries to work a double coup. Starring Malcolm Stoddard (2). 3.45 Emmerdale Farm (2).</p>	<p>6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament. 6.50 News. 7.00 Tuesday Call. 01-580 4411 - Music and the Brain. 10.00 News. 10.02 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Morning Story. "Catie" by Al Harker. 11.00 News. 11.05 Play: "Not Cricket" by Peter Whalley. 11.25 The Letters of a Boy Soldier 1915-18. 12.00 News. 12.02 You and Yours. 12.27 Let's Discuss "Hare His Carcase". 12.35 The World of One. 1.40 The Archers. 2.00 News. 2.02 Woman's Hour. 3.00 News. 3.02 Hatter's Castle. by A. J. Cronin. 4.00 A Home in the Field. 4.15 He Shouldn't Have Been There. Should he? The letters of a boy soldier 1915-18. 4.45 Story Time: "Wid Strawberries". 5.15 News. 5.35 Weather. 6.00 News and Financial Report. 6.30 Top of the Form. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 News. 7.30 Time is so short. The life and writings of poet, Alan Lewis. 8.35 Anthony Hopkins (new series). 9.05 In Touch. A Model Kitchen for the Blind. A description of the kitchen designed for the In Touch Substation, in London last week. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 9.50 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Winkles. A mad-cap sitcom. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Magic Glass" by Anne Smith (2). 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.20 Today in Parliament. 12.00 News and Weather.</p>	<p>6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert. Serwald, Chopin (unrec.), Beethoven, Johann Strauss records. 8.00 News. 8.05 Morning Concert (continued). Handel, Vivaldi, Monteverdi, Bach; records. 9.00 News. 9.25 The Week's Composer: Strauss records. 10.00 Piano Duo Recital: Straus, Mendelssohn, Percy Grainger. Royal Northern College of Music. Arnold, David Ellis. 11.15 Brevet, Fauré and Poulenc. Cello and Piano recital. 12.30 Vienna Festival 1981. Concert. Part 1: Mendelssohn, Mahler. 1.00 News. 1.05 St. Cecilia. 1.25 Concerts Part 2: Schubert. 2.30 Scriabin Piano recital. 2.40 News. 3.00 News. 3.02 Hatter's Castle. by A. J. Cronin. 4.00 A Home in the Field. 4.15 He Shouldn't Have Been There. Should he? The letters of a boy soldier 1915-18. 4.45 Story Time: "Wid Strawberries". 5.15 News. 5.35 Weather. 6.00 News and Financial Report. 6.30 Top of the Form. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 News. 7.30 Time is so short. The life and writings of poet, Alan Lewis. 8.35 Anthony Hopkins (new series). 9.05 In Touch. A Model Kitchen for the Blind. A description of the kitchen designed for the In Touch Substation, in London last week. 9.30 Kaleidoscope. 9.50 Weather. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.30 Winkles. A mad-cap sitcom. 11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "The Magic Glass" by Anne Smith (2). 11.15 The Financial World Tonight. 11.20 Today in Parliament. 12.00 News and Weather.</p>	<p>6.00 Ray Moore. 7.30 Terry Wogan. 10.00 Susan Simons. 12.00 John Dunn. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 4.00 David Hamilton. 5.45 News. 6.00 David Symonds. 6.00 The Crazy Gang Story. 7.00 Listen to the Band. 9.30 The Organist Entertains. 10.00 Tony Monopoly. 11.00 Brian May. 11.30 midnight. 1.00 are Trucks. Hour. 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.</p>
BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV/LONDON	Radio 4	Radio 3	Radio 2
<p>3.55 Play School. For the under fives. 4.20 Cartoon: Animated Laurel and Hardy in Spook Land. 4.25 Jackanory. Tom Conti reads another story from The Practical Printress and Other Liberating Fairy Tales. 4.40 Play Away. Fun and games with music. Presented by Brian Cant. 5.00 Newsround presented by Paul McDowell. 5.10 Screen Test. Children from Farnborough School, Sunderland compete with Newsdays School, FCI, Middlesbrough, in a test of cinematic recall. 5.35 The Amazing Adventures of Morph (2). 5.40 News read by Richard Baker. 6.00 Regional news magazines. 6.25 News. 6.50 Barbara's World of Horrors on Posing. Mrs Woodhouse gives advice on buying a pony. 7.15 Angels. Drama serial about the staff of a Midlands hospital. 7.40 The Rockford Files. Jim and Claire plan to have a romantic day at the zoo but then Claire's past begins to catch up on her. 8.30 Yes Minister. Jim Hacker is caught between big business and ecologists when a company plans to manufacture a toxic chemical.</p>	<p>3.55 Antiques Roadshow. Arthur. 4.20 News and Angela Ripston visit Landrindon Wells. 4.35 Christopher Hogwood plays Bach's Prelude and Fugue in C minor. 4.40 Everybody's Doin' It. The British at Play as seen through the middle movies of the 1920s and 30s (2). In Search of... Arthur. The second of a series of films about pre-Norman England (2). 5.40 The Five Faces of Dr. Who (2). 6.00 Grange Hill (2). 6.25 The Walltons. The Walton boys are endangered by a local feud. 7.10 News. 7.15 In Prison. Made in 1957, the film is about what life is like for a prisoner in Strangeways Jail (2). 8.00 Top Gear. The latest news from the world of motoring. 8.30 Russell Harty with Arthur Askey and an all-star 1940s musical line-up.</p>	<p>4.15 Cartoon: Hound in Trouble. 4.20 Get it Together. Live pop music presented by Mags Nicoll and Roy Mather. 4.45 Vice Versa. Adventures of a father and son who have, by magic, reversed roles. 5.15 The Gaffer. Comedy series set in a small Midlands engineering firm (2). 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News. 6.20 Help Vi Taylor Gee with news of the Save the Children Fund. 6.30 Crossroads. David Hunter is interviewed by the Police. 6.55 Reporting London presented by Denis Tuchy Magazine programme dealing with news that is pertinent to London. 7.30 Give Us a Clue. Celebrity mime game chaired by Michael Aspel. 8.00 Rising Damp. Sit-com about the residents of a bed-sit house. Starring Leonard Rossiter and Frances de la Tour (2). 8.30 It Takes a Woman Man. A comedy series about a man unable to face the thought of conceiving middle age. Peter Tibbys stars as Roath.</p>	<p>6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.30 Today. 6.40 Yesterday in Parliament. 6.50 News. 7.00 Tuesday Call. 01-580 4411 - Music and the Brain. 10.00 News. 10.02 From Our Own Correspondent. 10.30 Daily Service. 10.45 Morning Story. 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Enlyn Williams: he introduces us to short (Radio 4 7.50 pm)

Anthea Askey: she stars in the sitcom Winkles (Radio 4 10.30 pm)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m, Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m, Radio 3 VHF 88-91MHz, Radio 4 VHF 92-95MHz, Greater London Area MF 1215kHz/247m, Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz, Greater London Area MF 1215kHz/247m, LBC MF 1525kHz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz, Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95.9MHz, BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94.9MHz, World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

# REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

GRANADA	SOUTHERN	ANGLIA	YORKSHIRE
As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30pm. 1.30-1.40pm. 1.40-1.50pm. 1.50-2.00pm. 2.00-2.10pm. 2.10-2.20pm. 2.20-2.30pm. 2.30-2.40pm. 2.40-2.50pm. 2.50-3.00pm. 3.00-3.10pm. 3.10-3.20pm. 3.20-3.30pm. 3.30-3.40pm. 3.40-3.50pm. 3.50-4.00pm. 4.00-4.10pm. 4.10-4.20pm. 4.20-4.30pm. 4.30-4.40pm. 4.40-4.50pm. 4.50-5.00pm. 5.00-5.10pm. 5.10-5.20pm. 5.20-5.30pm. 5.30-5.40pm. 5.40-5.50pm. 5.50-6.00pm. 6.00-6.10pm. 6.10-6.20pm. 6.20-6.30pm. 6.30-6.40pm. 6.40-6.50pm. 6.50-7.00pm. 7.00-7.10pm. 7.10-7.20pm. 7.20-7.30pm. 7.30-7.40pm. 7.40-7.50pm. 7.50-8.00pm. 8.00-8.10pm. 8.10-8.20pm. 8.20-8.30pm. 8.30-8.40pm. 8.40-8.50pm. 8.50-9.00pm. 9.00-9.10pm. 9.10-9.20pm. 9.20-9.30pm. 9.30-9.40pm. 9.40-9.50pm. 9.50-10.00pm. 10.00-10.10pm. 10.10-10.20pm. 10.20-10.30pm. 10.30-10.40pm. 10.40-10.50pm. 10.50-11.00pm. 11.00-11.10pm. 11.10-11.20pm. 11.20-11.30pm. 11.30-11.40pm. 11.40-11.50pm. 11.50-12.00pm. 12.00-12.10pm. 12.10-12.20pm. 12.20-12.30pm. 12.30-12.40pm. 12.40-12.50pm. 12.50-1.00pm. 1.00-1.10pm. 1.10-1.20pm. 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